| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information ResponseOur reference: FOI 25-1814Responded to: 09 July 2025 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

Protecting the public is a top priority for Police Scotland.  In Scotland Multi Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA), provides a comprehensive response to a complex issue, using professional assessment and management to properly target resources at those who pose a risk to the public.

Police Scotland work in partnership with a number of agencies through MAPPA to ensure that all Registered Sex Offenders are robustly managed within the community.  While we can never eliminate risk entirely, we want to reassure communities that all reasonable steps are being taken to protect them.

**The total number of convicted child sex offenders currently being monitored by each of the 13 Policing Divisions for Police Scotland.**

As part of our commitment to demonstrate openness and transparency in respect of the information we hold, Police Scotland, on a monthly basis, publish data regarding the number of Registered Sex Offenders in our communities, broken down by policing division and postcode area.

Please note data will not be published for a small number of postcode areas where the population of the area in question is particularly low, and it is assessed that publication would lead to individuals being identified.

This information is available:

[Registered Sex Offender (RSO) Numbers - Police Scotland](https://www.scotland.police.uk/about-us/what-we-do/specialist-crime-division/sex-offender-policing-units/registered-sex-offender-rso-information/)

Whilst Police Scotland does hold the offending information of all Registered Sex Offenders on the Violent and Sex Offender Register (ViSOR) system, it is not possible to conduct a search which would automatically retrieve a breakdown of the figures for offenders who have committed offences against children.  The only way to provide accurate information would be to examine the records of each individual Registered Sex Offender in Scotland.  As of 1st June 2025, there were 5,372 Registered Sex Offenders in the community in Scotland, and a further 2,342 Registered Sex Offenders in custody/hospital.  Unfortunately, I estimate it would cost in excess of the current FOI cost threshold of £600 to process the request.  I am therefore refusing to provide the information sought in terms of section 12(1) of the Act - Excessive Cost of Compliance.

If you require any further assistance, please contact us quoting the reference above.

You can request a review of this response within the next 40 working days by email or by letter (Information Management - FOI, Police Scotland, Clyde Gateway, 2 French Street, Dalmarnock, G40 4EH). Requests must include the reason for your dissatisfaction.

If you remain dissatisfied following our review response, you can appeal to the Office of the Scottish Information Commissioner (OSIC) within 6 months - [online](https://www.foi.scot/appeal), by email or by letter (OSIC, Kinburn Castle, Doubledykes Road, St Andrews, KY16 9DS).

Following an OSIC appeal, you can appeal to the Court of Session on a point of law only.

This response will be added to our [Disclosure Log](http://www.scotland.police.uk/access-to-information/freedom-of-information/disclosure-log) in seven days' time.

Every effort has been taken to ensure our response is as accessible as possible. If you require this response to be provided in an alternative format, please let us know.