

Our Ref: IM-FOI-2022-2108
Date: 28 October 2022



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION (SCOTLAND) ACT 2002

I refer to your recent request for information which has been handled in accordance with the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002.

For ease of reference, your request is replicated below together with the response.

Under the Freedom of Information Act, I would like to request the following data for the years 2018/19, 2019/20, 2020/21 and 2021/22 in the police forces of:

- Aberdeen
 - Edinburgh
 - Glasgow
 - Inverness
 - Perth
 - Stirling
- 1. Instances of ATM theft or cashpoint fraud reported.**
 - 2. Instances of identity fraud cases reported.**
 - 3. Instances of stolen phones reported.**
 - 4. Instances of fraudulent purchases reported.**

In terms of the Act, I regret to inform you that I am unable to provide you with the information you have requested, as it would prove too costly to do so within the context of the fee regulations.

As you may be aware the current cost threshold is £600 and I estimate that it would cost well in excess of this amount to process your request.

As such, and in terms of Section 16(4) of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 where Section 12(1) of the Act (Excessive Cost of Compliance) has been applied, this represents a refusal notice for the information sought.

By way of explanation, I would advise you that, Police Scotland record crimes using the Scottish Government Justice Department crime classification codes. Therefore with regard to your request, each relevant offence would have to be manually examined to establish the details of fraud and stolen items. These offences would encompass for example in relation to mobile phone thefts, Common Theft, Robbery, Theft by Shoplifting and Theft by Housebreaking etc. I can also advise you that ATM theft would likely be categorised as Theft by OLP (opening lock-fast place). In respect to fraud offences, these are not sub-categorised into types such as identity or retail. Given the number of crime reports that this would involve, this is an exercise which would far exceed the cost limit set out in the Fees Regulations.

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To illustrate, the most recent published figures show that for the 2021/22 financial year in Aberdeen City, there were 393 recorded crimes of Common Theft, 524 of Theft by Shoplifting and 260 of Fraud.

You can access our published crime statistics via the following link: [How we are performing - Police Scotland](#)

Should you require any further assistance please contact Information Management - Dundee at foidundee@scotland.police.uk quoting the reference number given.

If you are dissatisfied with the way in which Police Scotland has dealt with your request, you are entitled, in the first instance, to request a review of our actions and decisions.

Your request must specify the matter which gives rise to your dissatisfaction and it must be submitted within 40 working days of receiving this response - either by email to foi@scotland.police.uk or by post to Information Management (Disclosure), Police Scotland, Clyde Gateway, 2 French Street, Dalmarnock, G40 4EH.

If you remain dissatisfied following the outcome of that review, you are thereafter entitled to apply to the Office of the Scottish Information Commissioner within six months for a decision. You can apply [online](#), by email to enquiries@itspublicknowledge.info or by post to Office of the Scottish Information Commissioner, Kinburn Castle, Doubledykes Road, St Andrews, Fife, KY16 9DS.

Should you wish to appeal against the Office of the Scottish Information Commissioner's decision, there is an appeal to the Court of Session on a point of law only.

As part of our commitment to demonstrate openness and transparency in respect of the information we hold, an anonymised version of this response will be posted to the Police Scotland Freedom of Information [Disclosure Log](#) in seven days' time.

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