| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 23-0859  Responded to: 11 April 2023 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

**(1) From 2015 to the day this request is processed, please state how many police officers have taken unauthorised photos of crime scenes. In each case, please disclose the following:**

* **Please provide a description as to what happened, and please state the year that the unauthorised photo/photos were taken.**
* **Please state whether the police officer shared the unauthorised photo/photos of crime scenes with other police officers/members of staff.**
* **Please state whether the police officer received disciplinary action. Please describe the disciplinary action.**

**(2) From 2015 to the day this request is processed, please state how many police officers have taken unauthorised photos of victims of crime. In each case, please disclose the following:**

* **Please provide a description as to what happened, and please state the year that the unauthorised photo/photos were taken.**
* **Please state whether the police officer shared the unauthorised photo/photos of victims of crime with other police officers/members of staff.**
* **Please state whether the police officer received disciplinary action. Please describe the disciplinary action.**
* **Please state the (i) the gender (ii) the ethnicity of the victim/s of crime in the unauthorised photo/photos.**

**(3) From 2015 to the day this request is processed, please state how many police officers have taken unauthorised photos of people held in police custody suites. In each case, please disclose the following:**

* **Please provide a description as to what happened, and please state the year that the unauthorised photo/photos were taken.**
* **Please state whether the police officer shared the unauthorised photos of people held in police custody suites with other police officers/members of staff.**
* **Please state whether the police officer received disciplinary action. Please describe the disciplinary action.**
* **Please state the (i) the gender (ii) the ethnicity of the person held in a police custody suite in the unauthorised photo/photos.**

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 Act where section 12(1) (Excessive Cost of Compliance) has been applied, this represents a refusal notice for the information sought.

By way of explanation, there is no specific search criteria that could be used to retrieve any allegations of this nature from the Professional Standards database.

Conduct and complaint allegations are of course categorised, but it is assessed that several categories could be potentially relevant to your request.

All such allegations would have to be individually reviewed for potential relevance and the details extracted and noted.

Several thousand individual cases received between 1 January 2015 and the date of your request (inclusive) would require manual review - an exercise I estimate would exceed the £600 threshold.

I appreciate that you have attempted to significantly refine your request but I’m afraid that the numbers involved are such that I see no way in which your request could be further meaningfully refined to a level within the £600 cost limit.

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](mailto:foi@scotland.police.uk) 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](http://www.itspublicknowledge.info/Appeal), by [email](mailto:enquiries@itspublicknowledge.info) 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.