| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 23-1614  Responded to: 13 July 2023 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

## The latest report to the Scottish Police Authority Resources Committee includes mention of a £4.3 million overspend in legal and liability claims during the year 22/23. (Page 9: [https://www.spa.police.uk/spa-media/lxwjr1ag/item-3-1-provisional-outturn-2022-23.pdf](https://gbr01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.spa.police.uk%2Fspa-media%2Flxwjr1ag%2Fitem-3-1-provisional-outturn-2022-23.pdf&data=05%7C01%7Cfoi%40scotland.police.uk%7Cc3cb51a44c084b54032e08db70b7db28%7C6795c5d3c94b497a865c4c343e4cf141%7C0%7C0%7C638227707315315620%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=99zJlicOR8kWlxis7VhRXKtq6bakzCLO2Do2jyyuBvY%3D&reserved=0))

## I am requesting information on what these claims related to, including number of claims, details of claims and the expenditure linked to each.

In response to your request, 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, there is no straightforward method to extract the information you require. Claims paid in 2022/2023 were not necessarily received in 2022/2023, to identify the details of claims and expenditure per case a manual examination of each case until April 2023 would need to take place. This means that potentially thousands of cases would need to be manually examined. I estimate that it would take approximately 20 minutes per record to extract the data you require, using the threshold of 1000 cases, this would equate to an excess of 333 hours to complete. Greatly exceeding the cost threshold set out within the Act.

Police Scotland have assessed that the £600 cost limit within the Act equates to 40 hours of work and so this part of your request would breach the cost threshold.

Should you wish to significantly reduce the time period of your request it may be that some information could be provided to you, however it is worthy of note that the time period may have to be significantly narrow that this would mitigate any meaningful comparative data.

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.