

Our Ref: IM-FOI-2022-1565
Date: 11 August 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.

- **The number of times Police Scotland officers responding to a 999 call or emergency have had to take a person to hospital when ambulances have not arrived.**
- **The number of times Police Scotland officers responding to a non-emergency call or non-urgent incident have had to take a person to hospital when ambulances have not arrived.**

Please provide the latest available monthly figures for the previous five years.

Having considered your request 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, the incident recording systems used by Police Scotland have no facility to identify and retrieve reports regarding police escorts of individuals to hospital.

Whilst incidents are categorised, there is no specific category which relates to the type of incident referred to in your request.

As such, the only way to provide an accurate response to your request would be to individually examine every potentially relevant incident report, for the time periods requested to establish whether the circumstances are relevant to your requests.

This is an exercise which I estimate would far exceed the cost limit set out in the Fees Regulations.

The volume of incidents recorded is such that it is unlikely that we can do more than a few days within the £600 cost limit given the research involved.

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You may be interested in Police Scotland's 'Care and Welfare of Persons in Police Custody' Standard Operating Procedure which is available on the Police Scotland website, via the following link:- <https://www.scotland.police.uk/spa-media/0mfjn3pa/care-and-welfare-of-persons-in-police-custody-sop.pdf>

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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