| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information ResponseOur reference: FOI 23-1554Responded to: 4th July 2023 |
| --- | --- |

Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

## 1. The number of reports received of an alleged sexual assault committed by a person under-18 on a victim aged under 18. I would like this information broken down by year, covering 2022, 2021, 2020, 2019.

## 2. The number of reports covered in 1) that included an allegation of rape. I would like this information broken down by year, covering 2022, 2021, 2020, 2019.

## 3. The number of reports covered in 1) in which the alleged perpetrator was aged 10 or under. I would like this information broken down by year, covering 2022, 2021, 2020, 2019.

## 4. The number of reports covered in 1) that took place on school premises. I would like this information broken down by year, covering 2022, 2021, 2020, 2019.

## 5. The number of reports covered in 1) in which no further action was taken. I would like this information broken down by year, covering 2022, 2021, 2020, 2019.

Having considered your request in terms of the above 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 crime recording systems used by Police Scotland have no facility whereby the age of the accused or victim at the time of offence can be easily extracted.

Whilst there are some sexual offences which include the age of the victim in the crime classification, not all of the offences do and so, a large number of sexual offences would have to be individually examined for relevance.

As illustrated by our published [crime statistics](https://www.scotland.police.uk/about-us/what-we-do/how-we-are-performing/), this would involve carrying out case by case assessment of a vast number of reports - an exercise which I estimate would far exceed the cost limit set out in the Fees Regulations.

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](http://www.itspublicknowledge.info/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.