| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 24-0663  Responded to: 12 March 2024 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

**Can you provide information on the following for the years 2021, 2022, and 2023:**

**Please include details for both buying and selling and label accordingly:**

**((Categories below are from Action Fraud, if these categories don’t apply, please amend accordingly.))**

**How many fraud reports were made regarding online shopping or auction fraud?**

**and**

* **On average, how much money was asked for?**
* **On average, how much money was paid in total?**
* **On average, how much money was recovered?**
* **What was the highest amount of money asked for?**
* **What was the highest amount of money paid in total?**
* **What was the highest amount of money recovered?**
* **What was the average age of those targeted?**
* **How many males were targeted?**
* **How many females were targeted?**

**How many cases fell under the following categories:**

**Alcohol:**

**And, in this category:**

* **On average, how much money was asked for?**
* **On average, how much money was paid in total?**
* **On average, how much money was recovered?**
* **What was the highest amount of money asked for?**
* **What was the highest amount of money paid in total?**
* **What was the highest amount of money recovered?**
* **What was the average age of those targeted?**
* **How many males were targeted?**
* **How many females were targeted?**

**Food:**

**And, in this category:**

* **On average, how much money was asked for?**
* **On average, how much money was paid in total?**
* **On average, how much money was recovered?**
* **What was the highest amount of money asked for?**
* **What was the highest amount of money paid in total?**
* **What was the highest amount of money recovered?**
* **What was the average age of those targeted?**
* **How many males were targeted?**
* **How many females were targeted?**

**Health Products:**

**And, in this category:**

* **On average, how much money was asked for?**
* **On average, how much money was paid in total?**
* **On average, how much money was recovered?**
* **What was the highest amount of money asked for?**
* **What was the highest amount of money paid in total?**
* **What was the highest amount of money recovered?**
* **What was the average age of those targeted?**
* **How many males were targeted?**
* **How many females were targeted?**

**Holidays:**

**And, in this category:**

* **On average, how much money was asked for?**
* **On average, how much money was paid in total?**
* **On average, how much money was recovered?**
* **What was the highest amount of money asked for?**
* **What was the highest amount of money paid in total?**
* **What was the highest amount of money recovered?**
* **What was the average age of those targeted?**
* **How many males were targeted?**
* **How many females were targeted?**

**How many reports were made regarding timeshare/holiday club fraud:**

**And, in this category:**

* **On average, how much money was asked for?**
* **On average, how much money was paid in total?**
* **On average, how much money was recovered?**
* **What was the highest amount of money asked for?**
* **What was the highest amount of money paid in total?**
* **What was the highest amount of money recovered?**
* **What was the average age of those targeted?**
* **How many males were targeted?**
* **How many females were targeted?**

Unfortunately, I estimate that it would cost well in excess of the current FOI cost threshold of £600 to process your request. I am therefore refusing to provide the information sought in terms of section 12(1) of the Act - Excessive Cost of Compliance.

By way of explanation, the offence classification in Scotland is simply fraud and offences are not thereafter sub-categorised. Research would require case by case assessment of thousands of crime reports.

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.