| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 25-1077  Responded to: 24 April 2025 |
| --- | --- |

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

**For calendar years 2020 - 2024, please provide:**

**1. The number of recorded Road Traffic Collisions (RTCs) involving a police vehicle and a non-police vehicle, where the police vehicle was responding to an incident with emergency warning equipment (blue lights and/or sirens) activated at the time of the collision.**

**a. Please exclude collisions involving pedestrians**

*Table 1: RTC involving Police vehicle – blue lights activated – 2020-2024*

| **Year** | **Number of RTCs** |
| --- | --- |
| 2020 | 127 |
| 2021 | 107 |
| 2022 | 103 |
| 2023 | 110 |
| 2024 | 124 |

**b. Where possible, please indicate whether the collision occurred during a pursuit or en route to an incident.**

*Table 2: RTC involving Police vehicle – Journey type - 2020*

| **Journey type** | **Number of RTCs** |
| --- | --- |
| Patrol | 8 |
| Pursuit | 55 |
| Response | 53 |
| Other | 10 |
| Not specified | 1 |
| **Total** | **127** |

*Table 3: RTC involving Police vehicle – Journey type - 2021*

| **Journey type** | **Number of RTCs** |
| --- | --- |
| Abnormal load | 1 |
| Patrol | 8 |
| Pursuit | 40 |
| Response | 49 |
| Other | 8 |
| Not specified | 1 |
| **Total** | **107** |

*Table 4: RTC involving Police vehicle – Journey type - 2022*

| **Journey type** | **Number of RTCs** |
| --- | --- |
| Patrol | 12 |
| Pursuit | 33 |
| Response | 48 |
| Other | 7 |
| Not specified | 1 |
| Prisoner escort | 2 |
| **Total** | **103** |

*Table 5: RTC involving Police vehicle – Journey type - 2023*

| **Journey type** | **Number of RTCs** |
| --- | --- |
| Abnormal load | 1 |
| Patrol | 7 |
| Pursuit | 33 |
| Response | 60 |
| Other | 9 |
| **Total** | **110** |

*Table 6: RTC involving Police vehicle – Journey type - 2024*

| **Journey type** | **Number of RTCs** |
| --- | --- |
| Abnormal load | 2 |
| Patrol | 8 |
| Pursuit | 47 |
| Response | 57 |
| Other | 9 |
| Prisoner escort | 1 |
| **Total** | **124** |

**2. For each year, please categorise RTCs by severity of the outcome as follows:**

* **Damage Only**

*Table 7: RTC – Police vehicle damaged – 2020-2024*

| **Year** | **Police vehicle damage only** |
| --- | --- |
| 2020 | 97 |
| 2021 | 96 |
| 2022 | 87 |
| 2023 | 90 |
| 2024 | 91 |

* **Personal Injury: further broken down by the number of individuals involved with injuries classified as:**
* **Fatal**
* **Serious**
* **Slight**

*Table 8: RTC – Police Vehicle - Casualties by severity - 2020*

| **Number of casualties** | **Fatal** | **Serious** | **Slight** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Police vehicle | 0 | 2 | 40 |
| Third party | 0 | 0 | 15 |
| Pedestrian | 0 | 0 | 3 |

*Table 9: RTC – Police Vehicle - Casualties by severity - 2021*

| **Number of casualties** | **Fatal** | **Serious** | **Slight** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Police vehicle | 0 | 2 | 13 |
| Third party | 0 | 0 | 4 |
| Pedestrian | 0 | 0 | 0 |

*Table 10: RTC – Police Vehicle - Casualties by severity - 2022*

| **Number of casualties** | **Fatal** | **Serious** | **Slight** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Police vehicle | 0 | 1 | 20 |
| Third party | 0 | 0 | 6 |
| Pedestrian | 0 | 0 | 3 |

*Table 11: RTC – Police Vehicle - Casualties by severity - 2023*

| **Number of casualties** | **Fatal** | **Serious** | **Slight** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Police vehicle | 0 | 0 | 20 |
| Third party | 0 | 2 | 16 |
| Pedestrian | 0 | 0 | 1 |

*Table 12: RTC – Police Vehicle - Casualties by severity - 2024*

| **Number of casualties** | **Fatal** | **Serious** | **Slight** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Police vehicle | 0 | 2 | 27 |
| Third party | 1 | 0 | 3 |
| Pedestrian | 0 | 0 | 0 |

**3. For each year, for vehicles involved in these collisions, advise on:**

* **The number of police vehicles written off following such collisions**

*Table 13: Police vehicles written off after RTC – 2020-2024*

| **Year** | **Number of police vehicles written off** |
| --- | --- |
| 2020 | 10 |
| 2021 | 6 |
| 2022 | 16 |
| 2023 | 13 |
| 2024 | 12 |

* **Police vehicle repair costs**

*Table 14: Police vehicles repair costs after RTC – 2020-2024*

| **Year** | **Police vehicle repair costs** |
| --- | --- |
| 2020 | £324,912.85 |
| 2021 | £182,278.66 |
| 2022 | £289,810.93 |
| 2023 | £356,654.94 |
| 2024 | £350,095.20 |

* **The costs paid out to third parties for injuries/damage to their vehicles**

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, Public Liability Claims and Motor Liability Claims are recorded separately. Dependant on the claimant and the circumstances of the incident an accident involving a police vehicle could be on either of these registers and the figure recorded for any amount paid out on these registers would not identify if the payment was for injuries, damage to a vehicle or a combination of both.

It should also be advised that there are often also associated costs that insurers recover for providing “hire/courtesy cars” while a third party’s vehicle is repaired.

The information on the Register does not also immediately make it clear if the Police Vehicle involved was travelling under blue lights at the time of the accident.

To provide the information requested, would require a manual review of each record, as such, this is an exercise which would 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](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](https://www.foi.scot/appeal), by [email](mailto:enquiries@foi.scot) 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.