| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 23-1739  Responded to: 19 July 2023 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

## Can I have a csv file (or multiple files if it exceeds maximum row limit) that contains all the Scottish crime records from 2016 to 2022 with the following columns:

## Report month

## Longitude of the crime location

## Latitude of the crime location

## Crime or Offence Type

I can advise you that in terms of section 16 of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002, I am refusing to provide you with the longitude and latitude data as this is assessed to be personal data.

Section 16 requires Police Scotland when refusing to provide such information because it is exempt, to provide you with a notice which:

(a) states that it holds the information,

(b) states that it is claiming an exemption,

(c) specifies the exemption in question and

(d) states, if that would not be otherwise apparent, why the exemption applies.

I can confirm that Police Scotland holds the information that you have requested and the exemptions that I consider to be applicable to the information requested by you are:

**Section 38(1)(b) Personal Data**

Personal data is defined in Article 4 of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) as:

‘Information relating to an identified or identifiable natural person (“data subject”); an identifiable natural person is one who can be identified, directly or indirectly, in particular by reference to an identifier such as a name, an identification number, location data, an online identifier or to one or more factors specific to the physical, physiological, genetic, mental, economic, cultural or social identity of that natural person’

Section 38(2A) of the Act provides that personal data is exempt from disclosure where disclosure would contravene any of the data protection principles set out at Article 5(1) of the GDPR which states that:

‘Personal data shall be processed lawfully, fairly and in a transparent manner in relation to the data subject’

Article 6 of the GDPR goes on to state that processing shall be lawful only if certain conditions are met.

The only potentially applicable condition is set out at Article 6(1)(f) which states:

‘Processing is necessary for the purposes of the legitimate interests pursued by the controller or by a third party, except where such interests are overridden by the interests or fundamental rights and freedoms of the data subject which require protection of personal data, in particular where the data subject is a child’

Whilst I accept that you may have a legitimate interest with regards the disclosure of this information and that disclosure may well be necessary for that purpose, I am nonetheless of the view that those interests are overridden by the interests or fundamental rights and freedoms of the data subject.

**Section 35(1)(a)&(b) - Law enforcement**

Release of this information would be likely to prejudice substantially the ability of the police to investigate and detect crime and would have a similar detrimental impact on the apprehension or prosecution of offenders.

**Public Interest Test**

Public awareness would favour disclosure as it would contribute to the public debate surrounding the police handling of an enquiry.

I would, however, contend that the efficient/ effective conduct of the service and public safety favours retention of the information as it cannot be in the public interest to release information that would prejudice law enforcement.

Accordingly, at this time the public interest lies in protecting the integrity of investigative and criminal justice procedures by refusing to provide the information sought.

I appreciate that there is a public interest in relation to police investigations. That said, it is essential that neither the investigation nor the potential for proceedings to be brought against an individual are put at risk.

To be of assistance, crime statistic data down to Multi member Wards are available on our website: [Crime data - Police Scotland](https://www.scotland.police.uk/about-us/how-we-do-it/crime-data/)

Please be advised that the remainder of the financial year data for 2022/23 and the years from 2013 are due to be included in the next publication.

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.