| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 23-2736  Responded to: 16 November 2023 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

**Any data on the number of firearms licenses issued to those visiting the country (specifically from Canada, the USA, Norway, Finland and Sweden), who wish to hunt deer?**

**Any data on the number of such licenses issued annually since 2018 would be greatly appreciated.**

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, Police Scotland’s national licensing system Shogun records visitor permits and where the individual resides, however it cannot produce a meaningful breakdown report for individual countries.

Information on deer hunting is not recorded on Shogun and only exists on the initial application form. As such extracting the relevant information would mean examining each application of which there are thousands - an exercise which I estimate would far exceed the cost limit set out in the Fees Regulations

To be of assistance, we can however provide similar information as follows.

Please note that in the UK, a visitor is not issued with a firearms license.

They are issued with a permit which allows them to possess and use firearms while visiting the UK. These figures are broken down by EU and Non-EU countries -

2018 - EU country – 1589

2018 - non-EU country – 61

2019 - EU country – 1314

2019 - non-EU country – 45

2020 - EU country – 701

2020 - non-EU country 27

2021 – EU country – 789

2021 - non-EU country – 31

2022 – EU country – 942

2022 - non-EU country – 33

2023 – EU country – 850

2023 – non-EU country - 36

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.