

Our Ref: IM-FOI-2022-0398  
Date: 4<sup>th</sup> March 2022



## **FREEDOM OF INFORMATION (SCOTLAND) ACT 2002**

I refer to your recent request for information which has been handled in accordance with the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002.

For ease of reference, your request is replicated below together with the response.

- 1) How many reports of injury to a child under 18 were reported in total to the force between 1 Jan 2020 and 31 December 2021? Please can I have the data broken down by month and year.**
  - a) Please indicate where these reports were tagged as a domestic incident or having happened within a domestic setting.**
  - b) Please can you specify the initial classification of the crime type (including offence classification code) and what the outcome was for all the reports e.g. charge, no action**
  - c) Of the above, please can you also provide a breakdown of the reports by type of injury, ethnicity, and the age groups 0-4, 5-9, 10-14, 15-17. Please prioritise age groups or skip this question and move to question 2 if it will exceed the time limit.**
  
- 2) How many reports of injury to a child under 18 were reported in total to the force in the calendar years 2018 and 2019? Please can I have the data broken down by year.**
  - a) Please indicate where these reports were tagged as a domestic incident.**

I must first of all advise you that your request has been answered on the basis of under 18 year olds who are recorded as the victim in a crime of violence.

On that basis, 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 a search can be carried out based on the victim's age at the time of

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offence. There are also no facilities available which allows for age of a victim to be easily extracted.

The only way to provide an accurate response to your request would be to individually examine all crimes of violence for the time period requested.

As illustrated by our [published statistics](#), this would involve case by case assessment of thousands of crime reports - an exercise which I estimate would far exceed the cost limit set out in the Fees Regulations.

Should you require any further assistance please contact Information Management Dundee, quoting the reference number given.

If you are dissatisfied with the way in which Police Scotland has dealt with your request, you are entitled, in the first instance, to request a review of our actions and decisions.

Your request must specify the matter which gives rise to your dissatisfaction and it must be submitted within 40 working days of receiving this response - either by email to [foi@scotland.police.uk](mailto:foi@scotland.police.uk) or by post to Information Management (Disclosure), Police Scotland, Clyde Gateway, 2 French Street, Dalmarnock, G40 4EH.

If you remain dissatisfied following the outcome of that review, you are thereafter entitled to apply to the Office of the Scottish Information Commissioner within six months for a decision. You can apply [online](#), by email to [enquiries@itspublicknowledge.info](mailto:enquiries@itspublicknowledge.info) or by post to Office of the Scottish Information Commissioner, Kinburn Castle, Doubledykes Road, St Andrews, Fife, KY16 9DS.

Should you wish to appeal against the Office of the Scottish Information Commissioner's decision, there is an appeal to the Court of Session on a point of law only.

As part of our commitment to demonstrate openness and transparency in respect of the information we hold, an anonymised version of this response will be posted to the Police Scotland Freedom of Information [Disclosure Log](#) in seven days' time.