| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 23-2069  Responded to: xx September 2023 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

## 1. The amount of police time spent on personal possession offences in relation to cannabis, in each of the past five calendar years (2022, 2021, 2020, 2019, 2018).

## 2. The cost of policing personal use cannabis, in each of the past five calendar years (2022, 2021, 2020, 2019, 2018).

Your request for information has now been considered and I can advise you that Police Scotland does not hold any of the information requested by you.

In terms of Section 17 of the Act, this letter represents a formal notice that information is not held.

By way of explanation, Police Scotland does not record the total costs involved for any specific operation or type of investigation.  The nature of policing means that officers are deployed to wherever their services are most required.  The number of officers required throughout an investigation will fluctuate throughout an enquiry and officers involved in a particular investigation, or multiple investigations, can be redeployed to other duties at any time.  To explain further, officers are drawn from different areas of the Service, based on their skillsets, with the appropriate Division meeting the cost of their core time.  As such detailed records are not held in relation to the number of officers deployed, or to detail the specific costs of any particular piece of work undertaken by them during any specific time period specified.

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.