| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 23-1815  Responded to: 10 August 2023 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

## How much did your force spend on interpretation/translation in the 2022/23 financial year?

In 2022/2023 Police Scotland spent £504,722.03 on interpretation and translation costs.

## What were the top five languages where most costs were incurred?

The table below provides the top five language interpretation and translation services used by Police Scotland with costs.

Top five language interpretation and translation services used by Police Scotland.

| Language | Cost |
| --- | --- |
| Polish Interpreters | £104,288.66 |
| Romanian Interpreters | £49,363.63 |
| Arabic Interpreters | £39,597.15 |
| Sign Language Interpreters | £32,892.93 |
| Mandarin Interpreters | £21,702.84 |
| Total | £247,845.21 |

## If possible, please could you provide this information solely for translation services.

In response to your request, 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, there is no straightforward method to extract the information you require. To determine translation costs alone would require a manual assessment of each transaction. An excess of 5000 transactions have been identified that would require assessment. With a conservative estimate of 5 minutes per record this would equate to an excess of 416 hours to complete.

Police Scotland have assessed that the £600 cost limit within the Act equates to 40 hours of work and so this part of your request would breach the cost threshold.

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.