

Our Ref: IM-FOI-2022-2761  
Date: 5<sup>th</sup> January 2023



## **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.

**Please provide the number of cautions issues by Police Scotland in each year since April 2018.**

**Please provide a breakdown of the type of offence i.e. carrying imitation firearms/sex offence on a woman/sexual offence on a girl or boy including age range.**

**Specifically, please provide data for each of Dundee, Perth & Kinross, Angus, and Fife.**

**If Police Scotland holds specific case details which may add vital context for any of the cases then please include.**

In response to your request, I must first of all advise you that a caution in Scotland has a different meaning to that in England and Wales.

In England and Wales, the term relates to a formal police warning.

In Scotland a caution is common law, used when interviewing a suspect, taking a statement from someone who may end up being an accused person, or when charging someone.

The caution is simply informing that person of their rights. As such, in terms of Section 17 of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002, this represents a notice that the information you seek is not held by Police Scotland.

If it is of interest, recorded and detected crime statistics are publicly available on the Police Scotland website:-

[How we are performing - Police Scotland](#)

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

## OFFICIAL

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.