| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 23-2016  Responded to: xx August 2023 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

## Please provide a list of the total number of people charged under Section 1 of the Protection of Workers (Retail and Age-restricted Goods and Services) (Scotland) Act 2021 since it was introduced.

## Please break this down by local authority area and calendar or financial year (whichever is easiest).

## If this information for the whole of Scotland is not possible for financial reasons, please provide the information for Aberdeen, Aberdeenshire, Moray and Highland council areas.

The information sought is held by Police Scotland, but I am refusing to provide it in terms of section 16(1) of the Act on the basis that the section 25(1) exemption applies:

*“Information which the applicant can reasonably obtain other than by requesting it under Section 1(1) is exempt information”*

Please be advised that data regarding is publicly available on the Police Scotland website, broken down into Multi-Member Ward (MMW) area:

[Crime data - Police Scotland](https://www.scotland.police.uk/about-us/how-we-do-it/crime-data/)

You can select the relevant MMW area by council name in column 1 and ‘retail’ etc. in the crime column.

Please be advised that statistics regarding all offences are publicly available.

The Protection of Workers (Retail and Age-restricted Goods and Services) (Scotland) Act 2021 was implemented on 24 August 2021 and any data held will reflect this.

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.