

Our Ref: IM-FOI-2022-2483
Date: 16 December 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.

How many arrests, and or charges have involved selling ONLY nitrous oxide via the internet from January 2016 to present.

Having considered your request, I must first of all advise you that the figures below are **all detected** crimes for the offence of 'Psychoactive Substance: Production, Supply or Possession in Custody' from 1st January 2016 to 27th November 2022.

Year	Detected Crimes
2016	2
2017	13
2018	3
2019	-
2020	8
2021	2
2022	3

All statistics are provisional and should be treated as management information.

All data have been extracted from Police Scotland internal systems and are correct as at 28 November 2022.

I can advise you that three of these offences involved Nitrous Oxide however, none of the crime reports specifically state that the Nitrous Oxide was being sold via the internet.

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 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.

OFFICIAL

You can apply [online](#), by email to 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.