| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 25-0078  Responded to: 14 January 2025 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

## The number of records of contact, reported incidents, and recorded crimes from the past five years (1 January 2019 - 24 December 2024) of suspected modern slavery within the waste sector. Please can you provide a breakdown of the number of reports per year.  (if you cannot retrieve the waste sector element, please provide the data in relation to modern slavery offences only)

We are unable to search by occupational sector as such, I estimate that it would cost well in excess of the current FOI cost threshold of £600 to process your request. I am therefore refusing to provide the information sought in terms of section 12(1) of the Act - Excessive Cost of Compliance.

However, I can provide data in relation to all Human Trafficking offence. Please see below for the number of National Referral Mechanisms for 2019- 2024. A national referral mechanism shows a potential victim of Trafficking.

**2024** - 1061

**2023** - 868

**2022** - 681

**2021** - 459

**2020** - 413

**2019** – 564

## Of the offences in question 1 please provide the outcomes.

Unfortunately, I estimate that it would cost well in excess of the current FOI cost threshold of £600 to process your request. I am therefore refusing to provide the information sought in terms of section 12(1) of the Act - Excessive Cost of Compliance.

By way of explanation, the only way to collate this information would be to manually read each National Referral Mechanism. This is an exercise that would exceed the cost threshold set out within the Act.

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.