| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information ResponseOur reference: FOI 23-1006Responded to: 2nd May 2023 |
| --- | --- |

Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

## For all crimes reported between 2019 - 2022 that include the word "Grindr" (referring to the dating app only) AND whereby the alleged victim of the offence was under the age of 18, I would like to request whether any individuals were:

## (a) charged (and if so, for what?),

## (b) sentenced (and if so, for how long?).

## Please provide this information for the following years: 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2022.

## If a trial took place, I would like to request the date/time of the trial, at which court it was held (and court number).

Having considered your request in terms of the above Act, 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, the crime recording systems used by Police Scotland have no facility which allows for us to search crime reports on the basis of presence of specific words or phrases. The systems also have no facility whereby the age of the individuals involved can be easily extracted.

As such, the only way to establish whether the word “Grindr” was mentioned within a crime report and to establish whether the victim was under the age of 18 years, case by case assessment of all crime reports would have to be carried out.

As illustrated by our [published crime statistics](https://www.scotland.police.uk/about-us/what-we-do/how-we-are-performing/), this would involve individually examining tens of thousands of crime reports – an exercise which I estimate would far exceed the cost limit set out in the Fees Regulations.

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 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 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.