| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 25-1364  Responded to: 8th July 2025 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

## 1.The number of drivers stopped, under the Road Traffic Act 1988 and the Road Vehicles (Construction and Use) Regulations 1986, for each of the calendar years 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, and 2024 to date.

In response to this part of your request, 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.

To explain, details of ‘stops’ would only be recorded in officer notebooks and as such, we would need to review all notebooks from the time period specified.

## The number of drivers prosecuted, under the Road Traffic Act 1988 and the Road Vehicles (Construction and Use) Regulations 1986, for each of the calendar years 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, and 2024 to date.

Police Scotland does not hold criminal conviction/ prosecution data and section 17 of the Act therefore applies. You may wish to contact the Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service (COPFS) and/ or the Scottish Courts Service.

## The number of drivers fined, under the Road Traffic Act 1988 and the Road Vehicles (Construction and Use) Regulations 1986, for each of the calendar years 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, and 2024 to date.

Police Scotland only hold data relating to Fixed Penalty Notices (FPNs) for three years plus current. As such, in terms of your request for data from 2019 to 2022, the information sought is not held by Police Scotland and section 17 of the Act therefore applies.

The below tables set out the number of FPNs issued for the relevant offences under the Road Vehicles (Construction and Use) Regulations 1986, broken down by divisional area.

Table 1: Conditional Offer of Fixed Penalty issued – 2022

| **Division** | **Dirty Exhaust** | **Defective Exhaust** | **Unnecessary/ Excessive Noise** | **Total** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| A | 8 | 25 | 22 | 55 |
| C | 0 | 2 | 0 | 2 |
| D | 0 | 7 | 4 | 11 |
| E | 1 | 1 | 0 | 2 |
| G | 3 | 2 | 2 | 7 |
| J | 0 | 2 | 0 | 2 |
| K | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| L | 0 | 3 | 1 | 4 |
| N | 0 | 4 | 3 | 7 |
| P | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Q | 1 | 0 | 1 | 2 |
| U | 0 | 3 | 0 | 3 |
| V | 1 | 5 | 0 | 6 |

Table 2: Conditional Offer of Fixed Penalty issued – 2023

| **Division** | **Dirty Exhaust** | **Defective Exhaust** | **Unnecessary/ Excessive Noise** | **Total** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| A | 11 | 59 | 40 | 110 |
| C | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| D | 2 | 4 | 2 | 8 |
| E | 2 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| G | 2 | 2 | 2 | 6 |
| J | 0 | 2 | 0 | 2 |
| K | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| L | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| N | 2 | 5 | 2 | 9 |
| P | 0 | 4 | 4 | 8 |
| Q | 3 | 0 | 1 | 4 |
| U | 8 | 6 | 1 | 15 |
| V | 2 | 8 | 0 | 10 |

Table 3: Conditional Offer of Fixed Penalty issued – 2024

| **Division** | **Dirty Exhaust** | **Defective Exhaust** | **Unnecessary/ Excessive Noise** | **Total** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| A | 17 | 53 | 34 | 104 |
| C | 0 | 4 | 0 | 4 |
| D | 2 | 4 | 2 | 8 |
| E | 1 | 0 | 1 | 2 |
| G | 3 | 6 | 4 | 13 |
| J | 1 | 0 | 6 | 7 |
| K | 1 | 4 | 0 | 5 |
| L | 0 | 3 | 1 | 4 |
| N | 0 | 3 | 0 | 3 |
| P | 0 | 2 | 0 | 2 |
| Q | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| U | 2 | 2 | 1 | 5 |
| V | 2 | 4 | 0 | 6 |

Table 4: Conditional Offer of Fixed Penalty issued – 01 January 2025 – 30 April 2025

| **Division** | **Dirty Exhaust** | **Defective Exhaust** | **Unnecessary/ Excessive Noise** | **Total** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| A | 2 | 10 | 14 | 26 |
| C | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| D | 3 | 1 | 1 | 5 |
| E | 0 | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| G | 1 | 2 | 0 | 3 |
| J | 0 | 2 | 0 | 2 |
| K | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| L | 0 | 2 | 0 | 2 |
| N | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| P | 0 | 0 | 2 | 2 |
| Q | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| U | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| V | 2 | 3 | 0 | 5 |

## If available, the top five locations (e.g., streets, towns, areas) within your force area where the highest number of such offences or warnings were recorded.

In 2022 the most common area was Aberdeen, Turriff/ Auchininna area.

In 2023 the most common area was Aberdeen, Turriff/ Auchininna area.

In 2024 the most common area was Aberdeen, A90 (various sections).

In 2025, the most common area, as at 30th April 2025, was Aberdeen, Peterhead.

## The number of Section 59 warnings (Police Reform Act 2002) issued for vehicles causing alarm, distress, or annoyance due to exhaust noise, over the same time period.

This legislation does not extend to Scotland, as such, and 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 available, the highest recorded decibel readings from any enforcement equipment (e.g., sound meters) used to measure vehicle noise.

Police Scotland do not issue enforcement equipment for measuring the noise level of vehicles.

In response to this part of your request, and 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 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](https://www.foi.scot/appeal), by [email](mailto:enquiries@foi.scot) 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.