| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information ResponseOur reference: FOI 24-3260Responded to: 15 January 2025 |
| --- | --- |

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

## I would like to request data/findings on the number of Firearms Licence fraud instances in Scotland for up to the past 3 years.

## This would be relating to instances where firearms certificates or shotgun certificates have been illegally copied, forged or replicated and used to purchase firearms or ammunitions.

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, we are unable to search by specific types of fraud committed. The only way to collate this information in an accurate and comprehensive way would be to manually assess all cases of fraud to determine relevance to fraudulent firearms licensing. For the financial year 2024/25, there 7678 records of fraud so far, as such a manual assessment is clearly an exercise that will far exceed the cost threshold outlined 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 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.