| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 25-2536  Responded to: 15 August 2025 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

**Please provide the following information for Police Scotland operations in the Edinburgh city centre (defined as the New Town, Old Town, and West End) for the period 00:00 on 20th July 2025 o 23:59 on August 11th 2025:**

**1. The total actual expenditure incurred by Police Scotland on any operation, deployment, or recorded activity where one of the stated objectives, as recorded in operational logs, was:**

* **The relocation, dispersal, or movement-on of individuals identified by officers as sleeping rough,**
* **The removal or supervision of removal of tents, bedding, sleeping bags, mattresses, or other personal effects from public spaces,**
* **Supporting Edinburgh City Council or any other agency in the clearance of rough sleeping sites or public spaces occupied by individuals experiencing homelessness.**

**2. Please break down the total expenditure in (1) into the following categories:**

* **Police officer salaries (regular hours) attributable to these operations.**
* **Overtime payments.**
* **Specialist unit costs (e.g., Public Order, Mounted Branch, Dog Unit).**
* **Vehicles and fuel.**
* **Equipment and materials.**
* **Payments to external contractors or third parties.**

**3. If available, please provide:**

* **The operational name(s) or reference codes used internally for these deployments.**
* **Copies of any operational orders or planning documents that include budgeted or projected costs for such activities.**

**For this request:**

**• “Information held” includes any data recorded in Police Scotland’s financial management systems, operational cost codes, and joint operation cost-sharing agreements with other agencies.**

**• “Public spaces” includes streets, parks, closes, underpasses, and other public realm areas.**

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.

To explain, there is no incident classification specific to the activity noted within the request. Each incident for the location & time period specified in your request, would need to be manually assessed for relevance - an exercise which would clearly far exceed the cost limit set out in the Fees Regulations.

Furthermore, Police Scotland does not routinely record the costs or policing hours associated with any specific operation or investigation.

The nature of policing means that officers are deployed to wherever their services are most required and the number of officers required throughout an investigation will constantly fluctuate. Officers can be involved in one or multiple investigations and can be redeployed to other duties at any given time.

Additionally, officers will be drawn from different areas, based on their skill set and expertise, with the appropriate Division meeting the cost of their core time.

If of interest, recorded and detected crime statistics by Multi Member Ward is available on our website: [Crime data - Police Scotland](https://www.scotland.police.uk/about-us/how-we-do-it/crime-data/)

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.