| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 25-1702  Responded to: 05 June 2025 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

## For each of the past ten years (2015-2025) what is the number of attempted burglary reports involving use of a blowtorch?

## If it is not possible to provide the information requested due to the information exceeding the cost of compliance limits identified in Section 12, please provide advice and assistance, under the Section 16 obligations of the Act, as to how I can refine my request.

## If you can identify any ways that my request could be refined, I would be grateful for any further advice and assistance.

Burglary/attempted burglary are not recognised crime classifications as Home Office Crime Classifications and codes do not extend to Scotland.

Crimes in Scotland are recorded in accordance with the [Scottish Government Justice Department (SGJD)](https://www.gov.scot/publications/user-guide-recorded-crime-statistics-scotland-3/documents/) offence classifications.

To be of assistance, we have progressed your request in terms of attempted housebreaking.

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, no flags/ markers or searchable fields which would indicate the use of a blowtorch. As such only way to provide an accurate response to your request would be to individually examine every crime report for the time period requested - 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](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.