| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 25-0724  Responded to: 25 March 2025 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

Protecting the public is a top priority for Police Scotland.  In Scotland Multi Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA), provides a comprehensive response to a complex issue, using professional assessment and management to properly target resources at those who pose a risk to the public.  Police Scotland works in partnership with a number of agencies through MAPPA to ensure that all Registered Sex Offenders are robustly managed within the community.  While we can never eliminate risk entirely, we want to reassure communities that all reasonable steps are being taken to protect them.

**The number of notifications received by Police Scotland in relation to statutory requirements imposed on offenders under the Sexual Offences Act 2003. Specifically, notifications about a change of name. Please provide this information for the financial years of 2023-24 and 2024-2025 so far.**

An individual who has received a conviction or finding in respect of a specified offence under Schedule 3 of the Sexual Offences Act 2003 is automatically subject to the Notification Requirements of Part 2 of the Sexual Offences Act 2003.

The Violent & Sex Offender Register (ViSOR) is the UK database used to record information concerning the management of Registered Sex Offenders (RSO), including information obtained from their notification requirements.

One of these notification requirements is in respect of the offender’s name, it should be noted this requirement not only applies to the individuals name but can be other names used by the offender and include usernames, email addresses etc.

The number of notifications Police Scotland received and recorded on ViSOR in respect of notifications concerning an offender’s name for financial year 2023-24 were 263 notifications and for financial year 2024-25 up until 13/3/2025 were 243.

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.