| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 23-1571  Responded to: 5th July 2023 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

## Could I please request the most up-to-date figures of young people (up to 25yo) carrying sharp weapons from 01/01/2022-30/11/2022, along with their ages and the region where the weapons were confiscated/found? This is in reference to the category of 'Possession of an article with blade or point'.

## Can I also request any data on knife-related instances in 01/01/2022-30/11/2022 by people aged 25 and under?

## In regard to my second question, we are specifically looking for any charged cases (25 and under):

## Possession offences for Offensive Weapons, Knives, Blades

## Possession of an Offensive Weapon in a Public Place

## Possession of an article with a blade or point in a public place

## Possession in Schools - Possession of an article with a blade or point or offensive weapon on education premises

Having considered your request in terms of the above Act, I regret to inform you that I am unable to provide you with the information you have requested, as it would prove too costly to do so within the context of the fee regulations.

As you may be aware the current cost threshold is £600 and I estimate that it would cost well in excess of this amount to process your request.

As such, and in terms of Section 16(4) of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 where Section 12(1) of the Act (Excessive Cost of Compliance) has been applied, this represents a refusal notice for the information sought.

By way of explanation, the crime recording systems used by Police Scotland have no facility whereby the age of the accused at the time of the offence can be easily extracted.

As such, case by case assessment of all relevant crime reports would have to be carried out to determine the age of the accused at the time of the offence - an exercise which I estimate would far exceed the cost limit set out in the Fees Regulations.

You may be interested in our published crime statistics which also include statistics for specific Scottish offence of having a weapon in a school:-

[How we are performing - Police Scotland](https://www.scotland.police.uk/about-us/what-we-do/how-we-are-performing/)

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](http://www.itspublicknowledge.info/Appeal), by [email](mailto:enquiries@itspublicknowledge.info) 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.