| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 25-0027  Responded to: 17 January 2025 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

**I'd like to find out:**

**1. The number of accidents that have involved E-bikes for the calendar year 2024.**

**(If it can be broken down as to whether victims were riders or other people that would be helpful).**

**2. The number of accidents for the previous four years - if possible.**

Unfortunately, I estimate that it would cost well in excess of the current FOI cost threshold of £600 to process this part of 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, electric or e-bikes are not a separate vehicle type within our Road Traffic Collision (RTC) database and are recorded in the same way as non-electric pedal cycles. The only way to provide you with this information in an accurate and consistent manner would be to individually examine each incident created on our systems to determine whether ebikes or electric bikes feature in the report. Considering the numbers of incidents involved this is clearly an exercise which would exceed the cost limitations of the Act.

**3. The number of E-bikes seized in each year.**

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| **Year** | **Number of E-bikes seized** |
| 2024 | 18 |
| 2023 | 11 |
| 2022 | 9 |

**4. The number of arrests of E-bike riders for road traffic offences.**

**5. The number of arrests of e-bike riders for other offences.**

The Criminal Justice (Scotland) Act 2016 removed the separate concepts of arrest and detention and replaced them with a power of arrest without warrant - where there are reasonable grounds for suspecting a person has committed, or is committing, an offence.

When a person is arrested, a statement of arrest should be read over as soon as reasonably practicable, and details recorded in the arresting officer’s notebook.

A person is ‘Not Officially Accused’ (a suspect) when arrested *and* *not* cautioned and charged. They are ‘Officially Accused’ once arrested *and* cautioned and charged.

If conveyed to a police station, the arrested person will have their details recorded in our National Custody System.

There are situations however whereby a person must be released from police custody prior to their arrival at a police station - effectively they are ‘de-arrested’ - where the reasonable grounds for suspicion no longer exist. In those circumstances, the details of an arrested person are not held electronically.

As a result, we are unfortunately unable to collate comprehensivearrest data, as case by case assessment of all officer notebooks would be required - in addition to the partialarrest data held in the National Custody System.

In addition, we are unable to provide any data regarding road traffic crimes committed.

By way of explanation there are no crime or offence classifications specific to e-bikes.

The only way to determine this information would be to manually search all road traffic offences to find relevance to E-bikes.

Unfortunately, I estimate that it would cost well in excess of the current FOI cost threshold of £600 to process your request and I am therefore refusing to provide the information sought in terms of section 12(1) - Excessive Cost of Compliance.

For the reasons outlined above, Police Scotland do not collate data on arrests.

Instead, data is compiled and published based on recorded and detected crimes - [Crime data - Police Scotland](https://www.scotland.police.uk/about-us/how-we-do-it/crime-data/).

Detected crimes are those where an accused has been identified and there exists a sufficiency of evidence under Scots Law to justify consideration of criminal proceedings.

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.