| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 25-2332  Responded to: 31 July 2025 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

**1. The number of hours spent by police officers in hospitals waiting to hand over patients to release them from police supervision. If this could be broken down by month, that would be helpful.**

**2. Of the above hours, how many hours spent by police officers in hospitals are as a result of dealing with a mental health complaint.**

Police Scotland does not routinely record the costs or policing hours associated with any specific operation/ investigation or at particular locations such as hospitals.

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.

As such, the information sought is not held by Police Scotland and section 17 of the Act therefore applies.

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.