| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 23-1130  Responded to: 16th May 2023 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

## My request relates to reports made to the police about people sleeping, staying, or living in vehicles or else in non-residential settings or non-permanent structures, for example tents, outbuildings, huts, etc.

## I would like to request the following information please:

## In the last 5 years, how many reports has your police force received of incidents of people sleeping, staying, or living in a car, van, or other vehicle?

## Please provide this information broken down year-by-year since April 2018 EG:

## 1st April 2018 - 31st March 2019

## 1st April 2019 - 31st March 2020

## 1st April 2020 - 31st March 2021

## 1st April 2021 - 31st March 2022

## 1st April 2022 - 31st March 2023

## In the same period, how many reports did the police force receive of people squatting in private or public buildings, sleeping, staying, or living outdoors in tents, in outbuildings eg sheds, or any other temporary outside structure (eg a hut).

## Please provide this information broken down year-by-year since April 2018 EG:

## 1st April 2018 - 31st March 2019

## 1st April 2019 - 31st March 2020

## 1st April 2020 - 31st March 2021

## 1st April 2021 - 31st March 2022

## 1st April 2022 - 31st March 2023

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, whilst incidents are categorised, there is no specific category on Police Scotland’s incident recording system, STORM, which relates to the type of incident referred to in your request.

As such, case by case assessment of all incident reports, for the time period requested, would have to be carried out.

This would involve individually examining tens of thousands of reports - 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](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.