

Our Ref: IM-FOI-2022-0855
Date: 5th May 2022



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION (SCOTLAND) ACT 2002

I refer to your recent request for information which has been handled in accordance with the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002.

For ease of reference, your request is replicated below together with the response.

How many reports have been submitted to Police Scotland of people being tracked/followed by Apple Air Tags?

In response to this question, 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, there are no markers etc. available on the crime and incident recording systems used by Police Scotland which would allow for the automatic retrieval of relevant reports.

As such, only way to provide an accurate response to your request would be to carry out case by case assessment of all reports for the time period requested- an exercise which I estimate would far exceed the cost limit set out in the Fees Regulations.

To be of some assistance however, a keyword search *can* be carried out on the incident recording system, STORM but I must stress that Police Scotland do not consider key word searches for specific words/ phrases to be an accurate means of analysis in most circumstances and there may well be incidents of relevance to your request which do not include the specific phrases listed.

A recent keyword search was carried out on our STORM *incident recording* system for - AirTag, Air-Tag and Air Tag and I can confirm that there were 60 incidents recorded since 30th April 2021, under the following disposal codes:-

999 - Non Emergency
Assistance/Advice Given
Cancelled/Not Required
Child Protection

OFFICIAL

Domestic - No Crime
Domestic - Non Physical
Domestic - Physical Violence
Duplicate
False Call Good Intent
Lost/Found Property
MISPER
Neighbour Dispute
No Police Action
Person Traced
Robbery
Theft
Theft By HB

Please note that there is no facility available on the *crime recording systems* used by Police Scotland which allows for a keyword search to be carried out.

Should you require any further assistance please contact Information Management Dundee, quoting the reference number given.

If you are dissatisfied with the way in which Police Scotland has dealt with your request, you are entitled, in the first instance, to request a review of our actions and decisions. Your request must specify the matter which gives rise to your dissatisfaction and it must be submitted within 40 working days of receiving this response - either by email to foi@scotland.police.uk or by post to Information Management (Disclosure), Police Scotland, Clyde Gateway, 2 French Street, Dalarnock, G40 4EH.

If you remain dissatisfied following the outcome of that review, you are thereafter entitled to apply to the Office of the Scottish Information Commissioner within six months for a decision. You can apply [online](#), by email to enquiries@itspublicknowledge.info or by post to Office of the Scottish Information Commissioner, Kinburn Castle, Doubledykes Road, St Andrews, Fife, KY16 9DS.

Should you wish to appeal against the Office of the Scottish Information Commissioner's decision, there is an appeal to the Court of Session on a point of law only.

As part of our commitment to demonstrate openness and transparency in respect of the information we hold, an anonymised version of this response will be posted to the Police Scotland Freedom of Information [Disclosure Log](#) in seven days' time.