| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 25-1013  Responded to: 2 April 2025 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

* **Number of shoplifting incidents by year, in Edinburgh for the last ten years**

The information sought is held by Police Scotland, but I am refusing to provide it in terms of section 16(1) of the Act on the basis that the section 25(1) and 27(1) exemptions apply:

“Information which the applicant can reasonably obtain other than by requesting it […] is exempt information”

Information regarding shoplifting in Edinburgh is publicly available:

[Crime data - Police Scotland](https://www.scotland.police.uk/about-us/how-we-do-it/crime-data/)

[Recorded crime in Scotland - gov.scot](https://www.gov.scot/collections/recorded-crime-in-scotland/)​)

Information covering more recent months will be published at the first link within 12 weeks of this response.

“Information is exempt information if it is held with a view to its being published […] at a date not later than twelve weeks after […] the request for the information is made”.

I believe it is reasonable in all the circumstances that the information be withheld from disclosure at this time and that maintaining the exemption outweighs any public interest in disclosure.

* **Number of break-ins to shops by year, by local authority for last ten years**

Unfortunately, I estimate that it would cost well in excess of the current FOI cost threshold of £600 to process your request.

I am therefore refusing to provide the information sought in terms of section 12(1) - Excessive Cost of Compliance.

To explain, with the exception of shoplifting which is a crime classification in its own right, we cannot search other types of theft based on the nature of the locus.

* **Number of violent incidents towards shopkeepers or shoppers 2024**

In relation to violence against retailers, a specific crime classification was introduced in 2021 and data can be found online via the links provided in response to your first question.

In relation to violence against shoppers, section 12 of the Act would apply as we have no means of researching crimes of assault etc, based on the victim being a ‘shopper’ or being in a shop at the time.

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.