

Our Ref: IM-FOI-2021-2888  
Date: 26<sup>th</sup> January 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.

**Could you please provide me with the number of sexual offences against children recorded by the police in Scotland for the whole of 2021?**

**I think all the categories are:**

- **Rape or attempted rape of a child aged 13 to 15**
- **Rape or attempted rape of a child aged under 13**
- **Sexual assault of a child aged 13 to 15**
- **Sexual assault of a child aged under 13**
- **Sexual activity involving a child aged 13 to 15**
- **Sexual activity involving a child aged under 13**
- **Taking, distribution, possession etc. of indecent photos of children (includes under 18s)**
- **Grooming of children for purposes of sexual offences**
- **Lewd and libidinous practice (includes under 18s)**
- **Sexual abuse of trust (includes under 18s)**
- **Other sexual offences (some include under 18s)**

The table at the end of this document provides the number of all recorded Group 2 crimes, by crime classification, from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2021 – 31<sup>st</sup> December 2021.

All statistics are provisional and should be treated as management information. All data have been extracted from Police Scotland internal systems and are correct as at 20 January 2022.

It should be noted that for those categories which are not specific to an age group, a child may still have been the victim however, the only possible way to determine the age of the victim is to carry out case by case assessment of each offence – an exercise which I estimate would far exceed the £600 cost limit set out in the Fees Regulations, and Section 12(1) of the Act (Excessive Cost of Compliance) would be applied.

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.

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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.pnn.police.uk](mailto:foi@scotland.pnn.police.uk) or by post to Information Management (Disclosure), Police Scotland, Clyde Gateway, 2 French Street, Dalmarnock, 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](mailto: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.

**Table 1: Recorded Group 2 crimes**Period: 1<sup>st</sup> January 2021 – 31<sup>st</sup> December 2021

Crime/Offence	Recorded crimes
'201200 - Incest'	8
'201301 - Illegal homosexual acts'	81
'201303 - Assault to commit unnatural crimes'	1
'201400 - Rape (common law, pre SOSA 2009)'	345
'201401 - Rape – M (16+)'	51
'201402 - Rape – F (16+)'	1487
'201403 - Rape – M (13-15)'	15
'201404 - Rape – F (13-15)'	287
'201405 - Rape – M (< 13)'	30
'201406 - Rape – F (< 13)'	135
'201500 - Assault with Intent to rape or ravish (common law, pre SOSA 2009)'	22
'201501 - Assault wi Rape – M (16+)'	6
'201502 - Assault wi Rape – F (16+)'	69
'201503 - Assault wi Rape – M (13-15)'	2
'201504 - Assault wi Rape – F (13-15)'	13
'201505 - Assault wi Rape – M (< 13)'	3
'201506 - Assault wi Rape – F (< 13)'	8
'201600 - Sexual assault (common law, pre SOSA 2009)'	189
'201601 - Sex. Assault by Penetration – M (16+)'	20
'201602 - Sex. Assault by Penetration – F (16+)'	386
'201603 - Sex. Assault by Penetration – M (13-15)'	2
'201604 - Sex. Assault by Penetration – F (13-15)'	111
'201605 - Sexual Assault – M (16+)'	208
'201606 - Sexual Assault – F (16+)'	1710
'201607 - Sexual Assault – M (13-15)'	70
'201608 - Sexual Assault – F (13-15)'	536
'201609 - Sexual Coercion – M (16+)'	10
'201610 - Sexual Coercion – F (16+)'	44
'201611 - Sexual Coercion – M (13-15)'	10
'201612 - Sexual Coercion – F (13-15)'	63
'201613 - Coercing a person into being present/ looking at sexual activity'	1141
'201614 - Communicating indecently'	955
'201615 - Sex. Assault by Penetration – M (< 13)'	11
'201616 - Sex. Assault by Penetration – F (< 13)'	121
'201617 - Sexual Assault – M (< 13)'	86
'201618 - Sexual Assault – F (< 13)'	449
'201619 - Cause to Participate Sexual Activity – M (< 13)'	34
'201620 - Cause to Participate Sexual Activity – F (< 13)'	110
'201621 - Cause to be Present Sex Act/To Look at Sex Image –M&F (< 13)'	367
'201622 - Communicate Indecently/Cause see/hear Indec Comm –M&F (< 13)'	384

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'201623 - Sex. Exposure – M&F (< 13)'	43
'201624 - Voyeurism – M&F (below 13)'	36
'201625 - Intercourse wi Child – M (13-15)(Consensual)'	19
'201626 - Intercourse wi Child – F (13-15)(Consensual)'	130
'201627 - Penetrative Sex Activity – M (13-15)(Consensual)'	2
'201628 - Penetrative Sex Activity – F (13-15)(Consensual)'	17
'201629 - Sexual Activity – M (13-15)(Consensual)'	15
'201630 - Sexual Activity – F (13-15)(Consensual)'	38
'201631 - Cause to Participate Sex Activity – M (13-15)(Consensual)'	22
'201632 - Cause to Participate Sex Activity – F (13-15)(Consensual)'	59
'201633 - Engage while Older Child in Sex Conduct/Consens Sex Cond – M'	3
'201634 - Engage while Older Child in Sex Conduct/Consens Sex Cond – F'	11
'201635 - Cause to be Pres Sex Act/Look at Sex Image–M&F(13-15)(Cons)'	183
'201636 - Commun Indecently/Cause see/hear Indec Comm–M&F(13-15)(Cons)'	275
'201637 - Sex. Exposure – M&F (13-15)'	14
'201638 - Voyeurism – M&F (13-15)'	43
'201639 - Threatening to disclose an intimate image'	356
'201640 - Disclosure of an intimate image'	501
'201641 - Communications Act 2003 (sexual)'	316
'201702 - Public indecency'	164
'201703 - Sexual exposure'	315
'201704 - Voyeurism'	525
'201801 - Procuration - excluding homosexual acts'	7
'201802 - Defilement of girl under 13'	4
'201803 - Defilement of girl under 16'	47
'201804 - Carnal knowledge of mentally defective or lunatic person'	1
'201807 - Brothel keeping'	28
'201808 - Person with custody & care of girl or other causing her seduction'	3
'201809 - Immoral traffic'	32
'201810 - Offences related to prostitution'	7
'201813 - Conspiracy to commit sexual acts outside the UK'	73
'201814 - Grooming of children for the purposes of sexual offences'	71
'201815 - Procuration of sexual services from children under 18'	5
'201817 - Soliciting services of a person engaged in prostitution'	10
'201818 - Taking, distribution, possession etc. of indecent photos of children (from Apr 2011)'	651
'201819 - Sex. Abuse of Trust (Children)'	11
'201821 - Bestiality (from Apr 2011)'	7
'201822 - Lewd and Libidinous (from Apr 2011)'	880
'201823 - Administering a substance for sexual Purposes'	18
'201824 - Possession of extreme pornography'	84
<b>Total</b>	<b>14606</b>

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