| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 25-2809  Responded to: 08 September 2025 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

1. **The total number of recorded racist and anti-migrant crimes over the past three years (broken down by year, if possible).**

Crimes in Scotland are recorded in accordance with the [Scottish Government Justice Department (SGJD)](https://www.gov.scot/publications/user-guide-recorded-crime-statistics-scotland-3/documents/) offence classifications, and there is no specific offence for ‘anit-migrant’.

Unfortunately, I estimate that it would cost well in excess of the current FOI cost threshold of £600 to process your request for ‘anti-migrant’ crimes. I am therefore refusing to provide the information sought in terms of section 12(1) of the Act - Excessive Cost of Compliance.

To explain, any such instance could be recorded under various crime classifications, and all potentially relevant crime reports would need to be reviewed to establish circumstances.

In terms of 'Racist crimes', these would be recorded as a Hate Crime with the aggravator recorded as 'Race'. As such, in terms of your request for 'Racist' crimes, 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) exemption applies:

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

The information sought is publicly available:

[How we are performing - Police Scotland](https://www.scotland.police.uk/about-us/what-we-do/how-we-are-performing/) - data is within Table 4 of the quarterly bulletin of the excel spreadsheet.

**2. A list of each recorded incident of racist and anti-migrant crimes within this period, including:**

* **The date and location of the offence, and**
* **The nature of the incident (for example, what was said or done).**

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) of the Act - Excessive Cost of Compliance.

To explain, there is no facility available on the crime recording system which would allow for the automatic retrieval of this level of information. All crime reports would need to be individually reviewed, and details extracted that were relevant to the specifics of your requests - an exercise which would clearly far exceed the cost limit set out in the Act.  ​

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.