

Our Ref: IM-FOI-2022-1923  
Date: 30 September 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.

- 1. The number of people aged under 18, divided by the age brackets (Under 10 years of age, 11-12, 13-14, 15-16, 17) who have been charged with theft of a motor vehicle for each of the calendar years ending 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2022 (year to date).**
- 2. The age of the single youngest person has been arrested for theft of a motor vehicle for each of the calendar years ending 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2022 (year to date)**
- 3. The number of people aged under 18, divided by month, who have been charged with theft of a motor vehicle for each of the calendar years ending 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2022 (year to date).**
- 4. The number of people aged under 18 who have been charged with burglary having previously been charged specifically for theft of a motor vehicle for each of the calendar years ending 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2022 (year to date)**
- 5. The number of people aged under 18 who have been charged with any crime, having previously been charged specifically with theft of a motor vehicle for each of the calendar years ending 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2022 (year to date)**

Having considered your request in terms of the 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, the only way to provide an accurate response to your request would be to manually examine each and every relevant crime report to establish the age of the accused. There are no relevant markers which allow the automatic retrieval of this

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level of information. Therefore given the volume of crimes this is an exercise which would far exceed the cost limit set out in the Fees Regulations.

You can access our published crime statistics via this link: [How we are performing - Police Scotland](#)

Should you require any further assistance please contact Information Management - Dundee at [foidundee@scotland.police.uk](mailto:foidundee@scotland.police.uk) 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](mailto:foi@scotland.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.

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