| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 25-0330  Responded to: 28 January 2025 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

**1. The number of blackmail cases involving sextortion (or online exploitation) reported within Police Scotland or Inverclyde area over the past 1 year (from 2023 to 2024) and 5 years (from 2019 to 2024).**

**2. A breakdown of victim demographics, if available (e.g., age, gender).**

**3. The number of these reports that led to prosecutions or further investigation.**

**4. Any additional statistics or data held regarding this type of crime**

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

By way of explanation,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, however there is no Scottish crime classification relevant to your request.  Such offences might be recorded as threats and extortion, fraud, non-consensual sharing of intimate images ​etc and all would therefore have to be individually assessed for relevance.  There are no markers etc that would identify what might be classed as 'sextortion' specifically.

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](http://www.itspublicknowledge.info/Appeal), by [email](mailto:enquiries@itspublicknowledge.info) 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.