| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information ResponseOur reference: FOI 25-2479Responded to: 26 August 2025 |
| --- | --- |

Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

Tackling domestic abuse is a priority for Police Scotland and we are committed to working with our partners to reduce the harm it causes and ultimately eradicate it.

Domestic abuse is a despicable and debilitating crime which affects all of our communities and has no respect for ability, age, ethnicity, gender, race, religion or sexual orientation.

Police Scotland will not tolerate it.

Police Scotland will proactively target perpetrators and support victims to prevent domestic abuse from damaging the lives of victims and their families.

Police Scotland defines domestic abuse as:

“Any form of physical, verbal, sexual, psychological or financial abuse which might amount to criminal conduct and which takes place within the context of a relationship. The relationship will be between partners (married, cohabiting, civil partnership or otherwise) or ex-partners. The abuse may be committed in the home or elsewhere including online.”

This definition is included in the Joint Protocol between Police Scotland and the Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service (COPFS), “In partnership challenging domestic abuse” which can be accessed online - [What is domestic abuse? - Police Scotland](https://www.scotland.police.uk/advice-and-information/domestic-abuse/what-is-domestic-abuse/).

**Could I please request the following information on the Police Scotland Disclosure Scheme for Domestic Abuse Scotland (DSDAS) or equivalent.**

1. **For the year 2025 so far, could I please request the following information on the DSDAS:**
* **The number of DSDAS applications received.**
* **The number of disclosures made.**
* **The number of applications that did not result in disclosure.**

The following caveats apply to all data sets provided in this response:

All statistics are provisional and should be treated as management information.
Data was extracted from Police Scotland systems and are correct as of 15 August 2025.
It should be noted that applications submitted in July/August 2025 may still be progressing and the figures for this year may be subject to change.

| **Calendar Year** | **Applications received** | **Disclosures made** | **Applications with no Disclosure**  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 2020 | 3,286 | 1,999 | 1,287 |
| 2021 | 3,862 | 2,305 | 1,557 |
| 2022 | 4,293 | 2,540 | 1,753 |
| 2023 | 5,303 | 3,047 | 2,256 |
| 2024 | 6,883 | 3,903 | 2,980 |
| 2025 | 4,913 | 2,276 | 2,637 |

1. **For each year from 2020 to 2025 can you tell me average number of calendar days taken to make a DSDAS disclosure, calculated from the date of application to the date of disclosure (successful applications only). Can you please tell the average for each year and present in a table format.**

| **Calendar Year** | **Average of total days** |
| --- | --- |
| 2020 | 45 |
| 2021 | 29 |
| 2022 | 29 |
| 2023 | 26 |
| 2024 | 24 |
| 2025 | 23 |

1. **For the year 2025 so far, could I please request the following information Right to Ask applications:**
* **The number of RTA applications received.**
* **The number of RTA disclosures made.**

| **Calendar Year** | **Right To Ask Applications** | **Right To Ask Disclosures** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 2020 | 891 | 301 |
| 2021 | 1,114 | 386 |
| 2022 | 1,314 | 445 |
| 2023 | 1,627 | 578 |
| 2024 | 2,414 | 818 |
| 2025 | 1,992 | 560 |

1. **For each year from 2020 to 2025 can you tell me the average number of calendar days taken to make a RTA disclosure, calculated from the date of application to the date of disclosure (successful applications only). Can you please tell the average for each year and present in a table format.**

| **Calendar Year** | **Right To Ask Average Days** |
| --- | --- |
| 2020  | 46 |
| 2021 | 29 |
| 2022 | 27 |
| 2023 | 26 |
| 2024 | 23 |
| 2025 | 22 |

1. **For the year 2025 so far, could I please request the following information Power to tell applications:**
* **The number of PTT applications received.**
* **The number of PTT disclosures made.**

| **Calendar Year** | **Power to Tell Applications** | **Power to Tell Disclosures** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 2020 | 2,395 | 1,697 |
| 2021 | 2,748 | 1,919 |
| 2022 | 2,979 | 2,095 |
| 2023 | 3,676 | 2,469 |
| 2024 | 4,469 | 3,085 |
| 2025 | 2,921 | 1,716 |

1. **For each year from 2020 to 2025 can you tell me the average number of calendar days taken to make a PTT disclosure, calculated from the date of application to the date of disclosure (successful applications only). Can you please tell the average for each year and present in a table format.**

| **Calendar Year** | **Average Power to Tell Days** |
| --- | --- |
| 2020 | 44 |
| 2021 | 29 |
| 2022 | 29 |
| 2023 | 26 |
| 2024 | 24 |
| 2025 | 23 |

**Final question: For all average time questions in this FOI, can you please include the longest time for each application section and shortest.**

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.

By way of explanation, a number of applications have been subject to clerical/ administrative errors, which has resulted in these applications providing inaccurate time frames for completion.

These applications resulted in the recorded days for both the longest and shortest times for an application to be completed to be false. The number of applications affected by these clerical errors will have minimal impact on the overall average per year, however, to provide the longest and shortest time, each application would have to be reviewed for accuracy. As such, this is an exercise which would exceed the cost limit set out in the Fees Regulations.

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 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 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.