| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information ResponseOur reference: FOI 23-0774Responded to: 06 April 2023 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

## We would like information on recorded incidents of child sexual exploitation broken down per month from January 2016 – December 2022. For the purposes of this Freedom of Information request, child sexual exploitation offences are defined by the Sexual Offences Act 2003 as amended by Section 68 of the Serious Crime Act 2015. This includes:

## Section 47 Sexual Offences Act 2003: Paying for sexual services of a child;

## Section 48 Sexual Offences Act 2003: Causing or inciting [sexual exploitation of a child];

## Section 49 Sexual Offences Act 2003: Controlling a child [in relation to sexual exploitation];

## Section 50 Sexual Offences Act 2003: Arranging or facilitating [sexual exploitation of a child].

## We are looking to find out:

## How many recorded incidents of child sexual exploitation were there per month from January 2016 – December 2022?

In response to your request, I must advise you that the above refers to Home Office legislation which apply only to England and Wales and are not applicable in Scotland.

Therefore, in terms of Section 17 of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002, this represents a notice that the information you seek is not held by Police Scotland.

I would advise you that, Police Scotland record crimes using the Scottish Government Justice Department [crime classification codes](https://www.gov.scot/publications/scottish-crime-recording-standard-crime-recording-counting-rules/pages/13/). You may wish to review these and re-submit your request.

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](http://www.itspublicknowledge.info/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.