| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 23-2546  Responded to: 20th October 2023 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

**I would like to make a freedom of information request for if any employee has criminal convictions and the nature of those combinations.**

**If this is too broad a request would it be to be narrowed to the Lothians area (West Lothian and Edinburgh).**

**If you require further information to respond to this request then do let me know.**

Unfortunately, I estimate that it would cost well in excess of the current FOI cost threshold of £600 to process this part of your request.

I am therefore refusing to provide the information sought in terms of section 16(4) of the Act, as section 12(1) - Excessive Cost of Compliance - applies.

To explain, there are over 1,000 serving officers in E division of Police Scotland alone ([Police Scotland Officer Numbers - Police Scotland](https://www.scotland.police.uk/about-us/how-we-do-it/police-scotland-officer-numbers/)).

Notwithstanding the fact that any convictions gained early in their service could, conceivably, have since weeded from the Scottish Criminal History System (CHS) in the interim (in accordance with [retention rules](https://www.scotland.police.uk/spa-media/himljwyi/recording-weeding-and-retention-of-info.pdf)), it would be necessary to check every officer against the CHS system to research your request.

Given the numbers involved, such an exercise would clearly far exceed the £600 limit in terms of resource.

You may be interested in a recent statement by Deputy Chief Constable Fiona Taylor QPM in relation to police officer vetting:

[Police Scotland statement on vetting checks of officers and staff - Police Scotland](https://www.scotland.police.uk/what-s-happening/news/2023/january/police-scotland-statement-on-vetting-checks-of-officers-and-staff/)

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.