

Our Ref: IM-FOI-2022-2437
Date: 12 December 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 firearm offences for the years 2022, 2021, 2020, 2019 and 2015?

I have attached at the bottom of this letter tables providing figures requested above.

2) The number of firearms offences that have resulted in a custodial sentence in 2022, 2021, 2020, 2019, 2015 (2015)

In relation to firearm offences which have resulted in a custodial sentence, I can advise that Police Scotland does not hold the requested information. In terms of Section 17 of the Act, this letter represents a formal notice that information is not held.

By way of explanation, Police Scotland does not hold prosecution/conviction information. You may wish to contact the Crown Office and Procurator Fiscals Service (COPFS) which holds conviction information for Scotland. A request can be submitted to COPFS via email using the following address foi@copfs.gsi.gov.uk

3) Can you please provide a list of what falls under a "firearms offence"?

In relation to what offences fall under a "firearms offence" I can advise that Police Scotland does not hold the requested information. In terms of Section 17 of the Act, this letter represents a formal notice that information is not held.

To explain this is a general question and we do not hold one specific document which could answer this question.

To be of assistance I have provided the following websites:

- <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/>
- <https://www.college.police.uk/app/armed-policing>

Should you require any further assistance please contact Information Management – Glasgow at foi@scotland.police.uk quoting the reference number given.

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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.pnn.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 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.

Table 1.
Title: Recorded Specified Crimes, Police
Scotland ¹
Period: 1st January 2015 - 23rd November 2022
(Calendar Years)

Offence	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Possess a firearm w/i to endanger life etc.	40	52	73	91	107	110	88	73
Reckless conduct with firearms	94	69	39	35	39	38	45	25
Firearms, Miscellaneous Offences	489	470	439	420	559	435	367	266
Total	623	591	551	546	705	583	500	364

All statistics are provisional and should be treated as management information. All data have been extracted from Police Scotland internal systems and are correct as at 24th November 2022.

¹The Recorded Crimes are extracted using the Date Raised, and then selecting the Stats Class

Codes:

101101 (Possess a firearm with intent to endanger life, commit crime & cause),

403302 (Reckless conduct with firearms) ,

605500 (Firearms, Miscellaneous Offences).

Table 2.

Title: Detected Specified Crimes, Police Scotland ¹

Period: 1st January 2015 - 23rd November 2022 (Calendar Years)

Offence	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022*
Possess a firearm w/i to endanger life etc.	36	42	54	60	74	86	64	52
Reckless conduct with firearms	63	49	20	19	23	20	28	17
Firearms, Miscellaneous Offences	462	440	404	355	541	407	325	268
Total	561	531	478	434	638	513	417	337

All statistics are provisional and should be treated as management information. All data have been extracted from Police Scotland internal systems and are correct as at 24th November 2022.

¹ The Detected Crimes are extracted using the Date Detected, and then selecting the Stats Class Codes:

101101 (Possess a firearm with intent to endanger life, commit crime & cause),

403302 (Reckless conduct with firearms) ,

605500 (Firearms, Miscellaneous Offences).