| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 23-0615  Responded to: 30th March 2023 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

**Can I have all the media responses which have not been released to the media – ie no journalist has inquired about the issue.**

**Can I have this for the past six months please**

In response to your request, I regret to inform you that I am unable to provide you with the information you have requested, as it would prove too costly to do so within the context of the fee regulations.

As you may be aware the current cost threshold is £600 and I estimate that it would cost well in excess of this amount to process your request.

As such, and in terms of Section 16(4) of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 where Section 12(1) of the Act (Excessive Cost of Compliance) has been applied, this represents a refusal notice for the information sought.

By way of explanation, in order to check what statements we hold which have not been released to the media, we would need to interrogate every subject which has been created in our Corporate Communications Media Management System. Unfortunately we do not have a way to automatically extract these statements.

In this case in excess of 5,800 subject records have been created in the last 6 months. At a conservative estimate of 5 minutes per record, this equates to over 483 hours of work to provide the information requested.

This would be further complicated by the requirement to check any unreleased statement found to ensure they did not relate to a police operation that was still ongoing at the time. Release of this information could compromise ongoing investigations and would likely be subject to exemptions under the Act in regards to investigations, law enforcement and health and safety. I expect this would add an additional 10 to 15 minutes per record.

Police Scotland have assessed that the £600 cost limit within the Act equates to 40 hours of work and so this part of your request would breach the cost threshold.

Unfortunately, due to the number of records involved, I do not believe there is a way to refine your request and for useful data to still be provided.

**if this is outwith the cost, can you provide me with the responses which fall below this threshold.**

I must advise that there is no obligation under the Act for Police Scotland to answer on this basis and a specific timescale would need to be provided. As indicated above, I do not believe useful data could be supplied due to the short timescale that would be required to keep within the cost limit set out under the Act.

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.