| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information ResponseOur reference: FOI 24-0417Responded to: 13 February 2024 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

## I am compiling information on Child Abduction from Scotland. I would be grateful to have the following information:

## How many complaints were made to Police Scotland since 12 October 1984 to present day, alleging that a child has been wrongfully removed from Scotland.

## Of these complaints, where were the children believed to be removed to.

## What actions did Police Scotland take in relation to these complaints.

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.

To explain, there are no markers etc which would indicate that the child was alleged to have been taken outwith Scotland and consequently, all potentially relevant crime reports would have to be read which amounts to several hundred per year.

Furthermore, most of our modern crime systems date from around the year 2000 and for the most part, data prior to that period will no longer be held by Police Scotland and section 17 of the Act will apply.  To be of assistance.... data for abduction and plagium (child stealing) - [Crime data - Police Scotland](https://www.scotland.police.uk/about-us/how-we-do-it/crime-data/).

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.