| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information ResponseOur reference: FOI 23-2447Responded to: 16 October 2023 |
| --- | --- |

Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

## Please could you provide me with details of all murders, recorded from 2000 onwards, that are currently unsolved.

## Please provide the following details where possible:

## The year of the murder

## The sex of the victim

## The name of the victim

## the victim's age

## the location of the murder

## a brief description of the murder

## whether any arrests have been made

In response to your request we must advise you that Police Scotland do not use the term ‘unsolved’ or “solved” but rather Resolved, Unresolved or Undetected Homicides.

The current definition of Unresolved homicides are considered those where:

(a) No suspect has been identified

(b) A suspect has been identified but not charged (no proceedings)

(c) A suspect has been identified and charged but not placed on petition (no proceedings)

(d) A suspect has appeared on petition but no indictment served due to there being considered an insufficiency of evidence at that time (no proceedings)

(e) A suspect has been indicted and a trial concluded which has resulted in an acquittal (Not Guilty/Not Proven)

(f) A suspect has been convicted but acquitted on appeal and no fresh prosecution has been authorised by the Appeal Court (Not Guilty)

(g) A suspect has committed suicide prior to trial and no other person is being sought in connection with the case.

(h) A suspect has been charged then reported and is awaiting trial, including pending cases committed during the Covid 19 pandemic which are still awaiting court proceedings to bring them to a legal conclusion.

Police Scotland categorise and record these homicides as unresolved.

The current definition of Undetected Homicides are those cases where no person has been formally identified as an accused or charged with the offence.

We have assessed that your request for **“all murders, recorded from 2000 onwards, that are currently unsolved”** relates to undetected homicides and as such we have included this information at the end of this letter.

Undetected homicides - there are 11 homicides with 12 victims during this time period (one double homicide).

When you request “**whether any arrests have been made”** it should be made clear thatThe Criminal Justice (Scotland) Act 2016 made significant legislative changes to arrest procedures (single power of arrest). Prior to that Police Scotland and legacy forces used different powers to detain a person/suspect under terms of Section 14 of the Criminal Procedure (s) Act 1995. Both afforded police with powers to arrest/detain, conduct further investigations, interview etc. This information is also contained at the end of this letter.

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.

| **Committed From** | **Committed To**  | **Age**  | **Forename** | **Surname** | **Gender** | **Location** | **Description** | **Arrest/ Detain** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 28/11/2004  | 28/11/2004 | 30 | Alistair | WILSON | Male | Nairn | Firearm (Shooting) | No |
| 21/10/2003  | 21/10/2003 | 49 | Ronald | KERR | Male | Glasgow | Housefire | No |
| 08/10/2002  | 10/01/2003 | 48 | William | SIBBALD | Male | Musselburgh | Sharp Implement/Stab | No |
| 12/08/2012  | 12/08/2012 | 50 | John | MCMURCHIE | Male | Dundee | Sharp Implement/Stab | No |
| 19/12/2010  | 20/12/2010 | 0 | Robbie | MOODY | Male | Bonnyrigg | Blunt Force Trauma | Yes |
| 10/07/2007  | 16/07/2007 | 45 | John | DEVINE | Male | Glasgow | Blunt Force Trauma | No |
| 24/09/2002  | 24/09/2002 | 36 | Gordon | ROSS | Male | Glasgow | Sharp Implement/Stab | Yes |
| 26/07/2007  | 26/07/2007 | 43 | William | BATES | Male | Erskine | Blunt Force Trauma | No |
| 06/10/2008  | 06/10/2008 | 42 | George | REDMOND | Male | Glasgow | Firearm (Shooting) | No |
| 25/06/2002  | 25/06/2002 | 41 | Alexander | BLUE | Male | Glasgow | Assault/Sharp Implement/Stab | Yes |
| 02/10/2001  | 03/10/2001 | 45 | John | HALL | Male | Larkhall | Firearm (Shooting) | No |
| 02/10/2001  | 03/10/2001 | 33 | David | MCINTOSH | Male | Larkhall | Firearm (Shooting) | No |