| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 23-2083  Responded to: 4th September 2023 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

## Please can you amend the original request to ignore whether there is a split between state or independent (for all schools within the force area of Police Scotland) and I am specifically looking for offences in accordance with Scottish Crime Recording Standard: Crime Recording and Counting Rules ([www.gov.scot](http://www.gov.scot)):

## • 43/008 Having in a school an article with a blade or point.

## • 43/014 Having in a school an article with a blade or point used in other criminal activity.

Please be advised that statistics regarding the two offences listed above are publicly available.

As such, in terms of Section 16 of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002, I am refusing to provide you with the information sought. Section 16 requires Police Scotland when refusing to provide such information because it is exempt, to provide you with a notice which:

(a) states that it holds the information,

(b) states that it is claiming an exemption,

(c) specifies the exemption in question and

(d) states, if that would not be otherwise apparent, why the exemption applies.

I can confirm that Police Scotland holds the information that you have requested and the exemption that I consider to be applicable is set out at Section 25(1) of the Act - information otherwise accessible:

*“Information which the applicant can reasonably obtain other than by requesting it under Section 1(1) is exempt information”*

The information you are seeking is available on the Police Scotland website, broken down into council area, via the following link:

[How we are performing - Police Scotland](https://www.scotland.police.uk/about-us/what-we-do/how-we-are-performing/)

## • 2/000 attempted murder.

## • 4/000 serious assault.

## • 7/000 threats and extortion.

## • 11/001 possess a firearm with intent to endanger life, commit crime and cause injury.

## • 21/003 Theft by shoplifting.

## • 22/002 Theft of motor vehicle and contents including taking and driving away.

## • 22/004 Theft of pedal cycle.

## • 22/005 Theft from a motor vehicle not elsewhere classified.

## • 22/006 Attempted theft of a motor vehicle.

## • 32/001 Fire-raising excluding muirburn.

## • 33/012 Vandalism .

## • 33/014 Malicious mischief.

## • 35/003 Trespass.

## • 38/003 Public mischief.

## • 44/099 Drugs, other offences

## • 47/001 Common assault

## • 47/002 Breach of the peace

Having considered your request for these offences, 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, the crime recording systems used by Police Scotland have no facility whereby specific premises such as schools can be automatically identified.

The only way to determine whether a crime was committed at a school, would be to carry out case by case assessment of all crime reports for the time period requested.

As illustrated by our published crime statistics, this would involve individually examining thousands of reports - an exercise which I estimate would far exceed the cost limit set out in the Fees Regulations.

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.