| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 25-0298  Responded to: 28 February 2025 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

**Can you tell me please in relation to the national rollout of proportionate response to crime strategy**

1. **please provide the date when full rollout across Scotland was completed**

Full rollout across Scotland was completed on 24th June 2024.

**b) since that date how many crime reports have been directly filed?**

**d) please provide the total number of crime reports received in this period (with the proportion of directly filed reports as a percentage)**

The information sought is held by Police Scotland, but I am refusing to provide it in terms of section 16(1) of the Act on the basis that a 27(1) exemption applies:

“Information is exempt information if it is held with a view to its being published […] at a date not later than twelve weeks after […] the request for the information is made”.

The information being requested will be published on the SPA website in advance of the SPA Policing Performance Committee on 19 March 2025.

[**Policing Performance Committee Meetings | Scottish Police Authority**](https://www.spa.police.uk/what-we-do/governance-meetings/policing-performance-committee/)

Accordingly, I believe it is reasonable in all the circumstances that the information be withheld from disclosure at this time and that maintaining the exemption outweighs any public interest in disclosure.

**c) please provide a breakdown of categories of directly filed crime (eg 200 related to theft, 50 related to vandalism)**

The information sought is held by Police Scotland, but I am refusing to provide it in terms of section 16(1) of the Act on the basis that the following exemptions apply:

Section 35(1)(a) and (b) Law Enforcement.

Disclosure would prejudice substantially the prevention or detection of crime and the apprehension or prosecution of offenders by informing those with criminal intent which crimes would be considered for the Proportionate Response to Crime investigation process.

This would, in turn, allow those individuals the opportunity to plan and orchestrate their criminal activities with the aim to avoid detection.

Police Scotland do not disclose their detection strategies to avoid providing those with criminal intent any tactical advantage when planning or perpetrating any unlawful activities.

This is a non-absolute exemption and requires the application of the public interest test.

It is worthy of note that an assessment of threat, harm, investigation, risk, vulnerability, and engagement (THRIVE) is applied to all offences to determine the most appropriate police response regardless of crime type.

Public Interest Test

I would suggest that public accountability may favour disclosure, given that the information concerns the efficient and effective use of resources by the Service. Likewise, disclosure of the information would also inform the public debate on the issue of policing and contribute to the accuracy of that debate.

However, any disclosure under FOI legislation is a disclosure to the world at large and any information identifying the focus of policing activity could be used to the advantage of criminals.

Consequently, in terms of the applicability of the exemptions listed above, the need to ensure the effective conduct of the service in relation to prevention and detection of crime and the public safety considerations involved in the delivery of operational policing clearly favour non-disclosure of the information requested.

Accordingly, I would argue that the need to ensure the efficient and effective conduct of the service favours non-disclosure of the information requested and on balance is significantly in the public interest. I cannot identify any corresponding viewpoint in disclosing the requested information and therefore the exemptions are upheld.

I must advise you that it is doubtful it could ever be in the public interest to disclose information which would jeopardise the delivery of policing and the safety of individuals and prejudice the prevention or detection of crime.

**e) have any complaints regarding directly filed crime reports been received from the public and if so how many?**

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.

By way of explanation, there is no complain classification that directly aligns to your request and it is our assessment therefore that all complaints under a number of potentially relevant classifications such as neglect of duty, irregularity in procedure and quality of service would have to be reviewed for relevance to the Proportionate Response to ​Crime (PRTC) process.

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.