| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information ResponseOur reference: FOI 23-0195Responded to: 13th February 2023 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

## In each of the last four years and so far this year, how many prisoners in Scottish prisons have been sanctioned for harassing members of the public (i.e. people not in prison) while they were incarcerated. For clarification, this query relates to inmates harassing members of the public (their partners or others etc.) while serving their sentence. Please break the figures down for each year. If possible, please provide details of the action taken against these prisoners, i.e. if they were charged with an offence by police/prosecutors, or if they faced some other form of sanction.

In response to this question, 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 markers which would indicate that a crime was committed by a serving prisoner or that the locus was within a prison.

The only way to provide you with an accurate response would be to have a list of all prisons and research each individually for all crimes, and thereafter assess their relevance to your request - an exercise which I estimate would far exceed the cost limit set out in the Fees Regulations.

You may wish to contact the [Scottish Prison Service (SPS)](https://www.sps.gov.uk/home/Contact-Us-General.aspx) who may be able to assist you.

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.