| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information ResponseOur reference: FOI 25-0310Responded to: 03 February 2025 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

**Dear Legal Officer, I wish to ask about Police Citations both for witnesses and accused (cgphatged persons).**

**How many times in the year 2020 did Police Scotland Officers personally deliver criminal Witness citations to people's home addresses on behalf of the Procurator Fiscal Service?**

**What reason was given for Police Scotland wasting resources and delivering these witness citations instead of the Royal Mail?**

**How many times in the year 2021 did Police Scotland Officers personally deliver criminal Witness citations to people's home addresses on behalf of the Procurator Fiscal Service?**

**What reason was given for Police Scotland wasting resources and delivering these witness citations instead of the Royal Mail?**

**How many times in the year 2022 did Police Scotland Officers personally deliver criminal Witness citations to people's home addresses on behalf of the Procurator Fiscal Service?**

**What reason was given for Police Scotland wasting resources and delivering these witness citations instead of the Royal Mail?**

**How many times in the year 2023 did Police Scotland Officers personally deliver criminal Witness citations to people's home addresses on behalf of the Procurator Fiscal Service?**

**What reason was given for Police Scotland wasting resources and delivering these witness citations instead of the Royal Mail?**

**How many times in the year 2024 did Police Scotland Officers personally deliver criminal Witness citations to people's home addresses on behalf of the Procurator Fiscal Service?**

**What reason was given for Police Scotland wasting resources and delivering these witness citations instead of the Royal Mail?**

**I now require information on Police Charge Citations hand delivered at home and not inside a Police Station.**

**How many times in the year 2020 did Police Scotland Officers personally hand deliver criminal charges with a court date citation to people's home addresses instead of the accused being charged inside a Police Station?**

**What reason was given for Police Scotland wasting resources and delivering these hand delivered charge citations at the accused persons home instead of the accused being charged inside a Police Station?**

**How many times in the year 2021 did Police Scotland Officers personally hand deliver criminal charges with a court date citation to people's home addresses instead of the accused being charged inside a Police Station?**

**What reason was given for Police Scotland wasting resources and delivering these hand delivered charge citations at the accused persons home instead of the accused being charged inside a Police Station?**

**How many times in the year 2022 did Police Scotland Officers personally hand deliver criminal charges with a court date citation to people's home addresses instead of the accused being charged inside a Police Station?**

**What reason was given for Police Scotland wasting resources and delivering these hand delivered charge citations at the accused persons home instead of the accused being charged inside a Police Station?**

**How many times in the year 2023 did Police Scotland Officers personally hand deliver criminal charges with a court date citation to people's home addresses instead of the accused being charged inside a Police Station?**

**What reason was given for Police Scotland wasting resources and delivering these hand delivered charge citations at the accused persons home instead of the accused being charged inside a Police Station?**

**How many times in the year 2024 did Police Scotland Officers personally hand deliver criminal charges with a court date citation to people's home addresses instead of the accused being charged inside a Police Station?**

**What reason was given for Police Scotland wasting resources and delivering these hand delivered charge citations at the accused persons home instead of the accused being charged inside a Police Station?**

The information sought is not held in a manner that can be reported by Police Scotland and section 17 of the Act therefore applies.

By way of explanation, citation ownership varies differently between divisions.

All citations are received centrally, logged onto the legal database and thereafter allocated out to local policing teams for ownership.

All recorded efforts to deliver the citations would either be manually written on the citation envelope or on the legal database.

It should be noted that if the information was held in a format that could be reported on, I estimate that it would cost well in excess of the current FOI cost threshold of £600 to process due to the volume of citations that would have to be manually reviewed.

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.