| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information ResponseOur reference: FOI 24-2262Responded to: 30 September 2024 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

## Please release all possible information ascertaining to sexual assaults and crimes in Falkirk from January 2024 until now.

## Please also include any allegations or ongoing investigations.

We have interpreted your request for ‘all possible information’ to include the records associated with each crime - for example, the crime report, related statements etc.

On that basis, 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.

To explain, between 1st January and 21st August 2024 there were 8,178 recorded crimes in Falkirk - 280 of which were group 2 (sexual) crimes.

Notwithstanding the above, even were it possible to gather the information sought within cost, it is highly likely that various exemptions set out in the Act would be engaged - for example section 34(1)(b) - Investigations, section 35(1)(a)&(b) - Law Enforcement and section 38(1)(b) - Personal Data.

## This should also include as much information as possible on the [name redacted] case who appeared on petition at Falkirk Sheriff Court.

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 exemptions detailed below apply.

The withheld information amounts to the personal data of the person involved and disclosure would therefore contravene the data protection principles as defined in the Act. The exemption outlined at section 38(1)(b) of the Act therefore applies.

The exemptions outlined at sections 34(1)(b) and 35(1)(a)&(b) of the Act also apply on the basis that any information held would be held for the purpose of an investigation, and disclosure would prejudice the law enforcement functions of the force.

The public interest overwhelmingly lies in protecting individuals’ right to privacy and honouring their expectation of confidentiality, as well as ensuring that investigations and any subsequent prosecutions are not prejudiced.

## I would also like any crime information related to residents of the Cladhan Hotel and immigrants/refugees in the Falkirk area.

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.

Similarly to question one, we have completed a search of all crime stats in the Falkrik area and to provide you with information relating to crimes involving immigrants/ refugees in the Falkirk area/ residents of the Cladhan Hotel would greatly exceed the cost threshold. To explain further, a manual search would need to be carried out on each of these reports to provide you with the information you are seeking.

To be of assistance, I can confirm there are 2 crimes recorded between 1st January 2024 and 31st August 2024 at the Cladhan Hotel, Falkirk:

1 – Common Assault

1 – Possession of Drugs

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.