| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 24-0702  Responded to: 15th March 2024 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

## I am writing to request the number of repeat offenders your force dealt with between 2018 and 2023 (1st January 2018 - 31st December 2023).

## Repeat offenders are defined as those who in any one year received a caution (for adults), a final warning or reprimand (for juveniles), a non-custodial conviction, or were discharged from custody.

The information sought is not held by Police Scotland and section 17 of the Act therefore applies.

By way of explanation police Scotland do not hold information regarding the outcome of criminal justice proceedings - such as conviction/ sentencing information.

Furthermore, a caution in Scotland has a different meaning to that in England and Wales.  In England and Wales, the term relates to a formal police warning.

In Scotland a caution is common law, used when interviewing a suspect, taking a statement from someone who may end up being an accused person, or when charging someone.

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.