| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 24-1783  Responded to: 31 July 2024 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

## I would like to request the following information:

## 1.Statistical Data - Comprehensive figures relating to:

## The number of reported cases of bribery and serious and complex fraud in Scotland over the last five years (2018-2023).

## The number of cases that resulted in arrests, prosecutions, and convictions during the same period.

## 2.Case Breakdown- Information regarding:

## The types of organizations or individuals involved in these cases (e.g., public sector, private sector, individuals, corporations).

## The geographical distribution of these cases across Scotland.

## 4. Outcomes and Trends: Any available analysis or reports on trends in bribery and serious fraud cases, including:

## Changes in the volume of cases over the specified time period.

## Any identified patterns or common factors in these cases

Crimes in Scotland are recorded in accordance with the [Scottish Government Justice Department (SGJD)](https://www.gov.scot/publications/user-guide-recorded-crime-statistics-scotland-3/documents/) offence classifications, however there are no classifications relevant to your request.

To explain, all relevant crimes would be recorded as ‘fraud’ and not subcategorised further into bribery, serious and complex fraud.

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

To be of assistance, crime data relating to ‘fraud’ can be accessed online - [Crime data - Police Scotland](https://www.scotland.police.uk/about-us/how-we-do-it/crime-data/).

## 3. Resource Allocation - Details on:

## The number of personnel dedicated to investigating bribery and serious and complex fraud within Police Scotland.

Please note, any officer could be investigating fraud at any time throughout different departments.

However, I can confirm that within the Serious & Organised Crime Financial Investigation Unit there are currently 30 police officers and 3 financial investigators whose role includes, but is not dedicated to, investigating bribery and serious and complex fraud.

## - The budget allocated to these investigations over the last five years.

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

To explain, we are generally unable to provide the true cost of any police investigation/ operation or particular types of operation. The nature of policing means that officers are deployed to wherever their services are most required, and the number of officers required throughout will fluctuate.

Officers can also be redeployed to other duties at any time, dependant on their skillsets.

## 5. Policy and Procedure: Copies of any relevant policies, procedures, or guidelines that Police Scotland follows when investigating bribery and serious and complex fraud cases.

Please see link below to our published Fraud and Economic Crime, Standard Operating Procedure.

As noted above, this will be for ‘fraud’ and not broken down further into bribery and serious and complex fraud:

[Standard Operating Procedures D-F - Police Scotland](https://www.scotland.police.uk/access-to-information/policies-and-procedures/standard-operating-procedures/standard-operating-procedures-d-f/)

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.