| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 24-0415  Responded to: 15 February 2024 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

## 1. How many crimes were reported involving zombie knives/zombie-style knives/machetes in the last three years? (Since 2021 - up to and including any data held for 2024)

## 1a) Of those, how many involved youths (under18)?

## Can figures be broken down by year?

We are unable to search crime reports based on the type of knife used meaning we would have to review each crime report individually to extract and note the detail.

Unfortunately, therefore, I estimate that it would cost well in excess of the current FOI cost threshold of £600 to process your request and I am refusing to provide the information sought in terms of section 12(1) of the Act - Excessive Cost of Compliance.

To be of assistance, data regarding knife crime can be accessed via the link provided below.

## 2. How many charges/arrests were brought against people selling knives to youths (under18) in the last three years? (Since 2021 - up to and including any data held for 2024).

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 section 25(1) exemption applies:

“Information which the applicant can reasonably obtain other than by requesting it […] is exempt information”.

The information sought is publicly available:

[Crime data - Police Scotland](https://www.scotland.police.uk/about-us/how-we-do-it/crime-data/)

Please search for 'Restriction of offensive weapon' which encompasses the offence set out at s141A(1) of the Criminal Justice Act 1988.

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.