| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 23-0459  Responded to: 10 March 2023 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

## Further to my previous request (22-2639) could you provide the age of officers rather than service?

In response to your request, I regret to inform you that I am unable to provide you with the information you have requested, as it would prove too costly to do so within the context of the fee regulations.

As you may be aware the current cost threshold is £600 and I estimate that it would cost well in excess of this amount to process your request.

As such, and in terms of Section 16(4) of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 where Section 12(1) of the Act (Excessive Cost of Compliance) has been applied, this represents a refusal notice for the information sought.

By way of explanation, the information requested is held on Police Scotland’s personnel database, SCoPE. In order to provide exact ages, each of the earlier noted officer’s individual personnel records would need to be manually examined with their date of birth extracted and complied into a data format. As identified earlier between 2016 and 2022, 1,064 officers successfully applied to begin the Diploma in Police Service Leadership and Management. To examine each record, even with a conservative estimate of 3 minutes per record would equate to an excess of 53 hours, greatly exceeding the cost threshold set out within the Act.

Police Scotland have assessed that the £600 cost limit within the Act equates to 40 hours of work and so this part of your request would breach the cost threshold.

However, to be of assistance, I can provide the table below. This information provided is extracted from generalised reports that can be generated from SCoPE.

Age Categories for successful applicants to the Diploma in Police Service Leadership and Management.

| **Age Category** | **2016** | **2017** | **2018** | **2019** | **2020** | **2021** | **2022** | **Total** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **16 - 24** |  | 2 |  |  |  |  |  | **2** |
| **25 - 34** |  | 145 | 156 | 60 | 58 | 49 | 61 | **529** |
| **35 - 44** | 1 | 73 | 101 | 62 | 49 | 55 | 104 | **445** |
| **45 - 54** |  | 9 | 14 | 9 | 10 | 17 | 28 | **87** |
| **55 - 64** |  |  |  |  |  | 1 |  | **1** |
| **Total** | **1** | **229** | **271** | **131** | **117** | **122** | **193** | **1064** |

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.