| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 23-0373  Responded to: 23rd February 2023 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

## I will like to know the number of online investment scams including crypto scams reported to the Scottish police from January 2022 to December 2022, and out of these cases reported how many was solved.

## Can your answer be provided in a tabular format, with the following columns - Index, Council Area, Reported, Solved

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, crimes in Scotland are recorded in accordance with the Scottish Government Justice Department offence classification codes and in this instance, there is no specific classification for “online investment scams”.

Any such crimes reported will be recorded under the general crime classification of Fraud and will not thereafter be sub-categorised.

As such, case by case assessment of all Fraud offences would have to be carried out to establish the circumstances and determine whether they were relevant to your request.

As illustrated by our [published statistics](https://www.scotland.police.uk/about-us/what-we-do/how-we-are-performing/), this would involve individually examining thousands of crime reports for the time period requested - an exercise which I estimate would far exceed the cost limit set out in the Fees Regulations.

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.