| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information ResponseOur reference: FOI 24-0871Responded to: xx May 2024 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

## I would like to make an FOI request for the number of people that have received a ticket for stopping illegally on the side of the road over the last 12 months. I would like the data to include the reason they were stopped and the road they were stopped on.

## You subsequently clarified the request as;

**I’m looking for the number of people who have stopped on a motorway or A road illegally.**

Following a number of enquiries, I must advise you that the gathering of this data is quite complex.

On that basis I am afraid that I am unable to provide you with the information you have requested.

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 this part of 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.

To explain, Police Scotland operates a number of crime and incident recording systems. Whilst robust statistical analysis can be made of the data held on each of our systems, they are not, at present, designed to enable the retrieval of the highly specific information as per your request.

To clarify, officers can issue a Conditional Offer of Fixed Penalty (COFP) to drivers stopping their vehicle on the hard shoulder of a motorway for a non-emergency related event.

Similarly, if a vehicle has stopped on an A road (with no hard shoulder) the offence could e.g. be classed as causing an obstruction, again if this is not related to an emergency.

It is at the officers discretion if they wish to issue a warning, a COFP or report the circumstances to the PF for their consideration as to whether a more serious offence had been committed.

In this instance there is no methodology to identify offences on parts of specific roads (e.g. hard shoulder) nor to narrow this type of behaviour down to a specific offence. As there is no mandatory recording of this level of detail this is an exercise which I estimate would far exceed the cost limit set out in the Fees Regulations.

To illustrate you can access our published crime statistics (Group 7 - Driving Offences) via the following link: [How we are performing - Police Scotland](https://www.scotland.police.uk/about-us/what-we-do/how-we-are-performing/)

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 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 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.