| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 24-3045  Responded to: 28 November 2024 |
| --- | --- |

Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

**How many Subject Access Request (SAR) does Police Scotland receive every year (if possible please break down into SARs per year over the last 5 years).**

**How many of these SARs (per year over the last 5 years) are complied within the one month period.**

2020 - 5,559 SARs received - 93% responded to within statutory period

2021 - 5,900 SARs received - 92% responded to within statutory period

2022 - 6,455 SARs received - 93% responded to within statutory period

2023 - 7,564 SARs received - 87% responded to within statutory period

2024 - 6,427 SARs received - 52% responded to within statutory period \*

\* 2024 data is based on the latest compliance data available which relates to SARs received between 1 January and 30 September 2024. The actual number of SARs received as at 27 November is in the region of 8,000.

**How many complaints to the information commissioner have be made for failing to provide the information in the one month time frame?**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Year** | **ICO Complaints where Summary References Timescales** |
| 2020 | 2 |
| 2021 | 4 |
| 2022 | 1 |
| 2023 | 14 |
| 2024 ytd | 13 |

Please note that there is no marker or searchable field which would indicate that an ICO complaint related to a breach of statutory timescales.

The figures above have therefore been complied based on ICO complaints which have a specific reference to timescales in the summary field.

**How many police officers have made a SAR to Police Scotland (per year over the last ( years)?**

**How many police officer SARs are complied with in the one month time frame (per year over the last 5 years)?**

Unfortunately, I estimate that it would cost well in excess of the current FOI cost threshold of £600 to process your request on the basis that all SARs would have to be individually reviewed for relevance to your request.

I am therefore refusing to provide the information sought in terms of section 12(1) - Excessive Cost of Compliance.

To explain, until very recently, the SAR management system used by Police Scotland had no marker or searchable field to identify SARs from Police Officers or staff members.

A marker was introduced in the last month or so and applied retrospectively to live SARs only. This was done in response to a perceived increase in such SARs which typically, are far more resource intensive than the majority of SARs we receive.

To be of assistance, I can advise you that of all live SARs currently in progress, 95 are from serving officers/ staff members. That represents around 5% of the total.

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.