| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 24-0050  Responded to: 26 January 2024 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

**- How many reports your force received from people claiming to be the victim of deepfake photos or videos in the calendar or financial years (whichever is easiest) 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023**

**- How many arrests, if any, were made as a result of these reports in those years**

**For the avoidance of doubt, I am not interested in reports of intimate images being shared without the person's consent - I am purely interested in reports of shared explicit images or videos that have been digitally manipulated or created to look like someone else without their consent, known as 'deepfakes'.**

Having considered your request in terms of the above Act, 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.

Crimes in Scotland are recorded in accordance with the Scottish Government Justice Department offence classification codes and there is no corresponding classification relevant to your request.  Such behaviour could be recorded under a number of different crime classifications depending on the circumstances and the only possible way to provide an accurate response to your request, would be to individually examine each and every potentially relevant offence.

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.