| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 23-0204  Responded to: 13th February 2023 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

## How many police officers and staff in your force have been reported for sexual grooming (HO offence 88A) from January 2018 to December 2022?

## How many of these reports resulted in any sort of professional disciplinary action of an officer or staff member?

## How many of these reports resulted in a conviction of an officer or staff member?

## How many of these reported officers/staff were removed from their job?

## How many of these reported officers/staff members are still part of your force?

Police Scotland’s understanding of Home Office Classification 88A is that it is split into three categories:

* Meeting a female child following sexual grooming etc (Offender is aged 18 or over and victim is under 16) - Sexual Offences Act 2003 Sec 15.
* Meeting a male child following sexual grooming etc (Offender is 18 or over and victim is under 16) - Sexual Offences Act 2003 Sec 15.
* Engage in sexual communication with a child. Sexual Offences Act 2003 Sec 15A (1) and (3) as amended by Serious Crime Act 2015 Sec 67.

Crimes in Scotland are recorded in accordance with the Scottish Government Justice Department offence classification codes and Home Office Classifications do not extend to Scotland, nor does any of the legislation.

As such, in terms of Section 17 of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002, this represents a notice that the information you seek is not held by Police Scotland.

Scottish Crime Classifications can be found in the following link – you may wish to consider a new request based on these classifications, a number of which may be relevant:-

[Classification of Crimes and Offences, Scotland](https://www.gov.scot/publications/recorded-crime-scotland-classification-crimes-offences/)

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.