| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information ResponseOur reference: FOI 23-1264Responded to: 06 June 2023 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

## The number of Thefts of a Motor Vehicle recorded by Police Scotland in (a) 2019, (b) 2020, (c) 2021, (d) 2022.

## The number of Thefts of a Motor Vehicle that resulted in a charge in (a) 2019, (b) 2020, (c) 2021, (d) 2022.

Please be advised that recorded and detected crime statistics are publicly available.

As such, in terms of Section 16 of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002, I am refusing to provide you with the information sought. Section 16 requires Police Scotland when refusing to provide such information because it is exempt, to provide you with a notice which:

(a) states that it holds the information,

(b) states that it is claiming an exemption,

(c) specifies the exemption in question and

(d) states, if that would not be otherwise apparent, why the exemption applies.

I can confirm that Police Scotland holds the information that you have requested and the exemption that I consider to be applicable is set out at Section 25(1) of the Act - information otherwise accessible:

*“Information which the applicant can reasonably obtain other than by requesting it under Section 1(1) is exempt information”*

The information you are seeking is available on the Police Scotland website, via the following link: [Crime data - Police Scotland](https://www.scotland.police.uk/about-us/how-we-do-it/crime-data/)

Please be advised that the remainder of the financial year data for 2022/23 and the years from 2013 are due to be included in the next publication.

Therefore, I can confirm that Police Scotland holds the information that you have requested and the exemption that I consider to be applicable is set out at Section 27(1) of the Act - information otherwise accessible:

*“Information is exempt information if it is held with a view to its being published […] at a date not later than twelve weeks after that on which the request for the information is made.”*

## The number of Thefts of a Motor Vehicle where a suspect was identified in (a) 2019, (b) 2020, (c) 2021, (d) 2022.

Having considered this question in terms of the 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.

By way of explanation, the only way to provide an accurate response to your request would be to manually examine each crime report categorised as being undetected - an exercise which I estimate would far exceed the cost limit set out in the Fees Regulations.

To be of assistance, Police Scotland record crimes as being recorded and detected rather by arrests/charges/suspects etc. I would therefore refer you to our published statistics in the link above.

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.