| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 24-3276  Responded to: 07 January 2025 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

## I would like to ask about crimes recorded by Police at churches or on church property under the Freedom of Information Act:

## 1.     How many crimes have been recorded by your force involving theft from/at churches or from/at church property from January 1, 2022- December 30 2024?

## a)     If possible, please could you clarify how many of the thefts recorded relate to lead being taken from the church roof?

## 2.     How many crimes have been recorded by your force involving assault (physical/violent) at churches or on church property from January 1 2022- December 30 2024?

## 3.     How many crimes have been recorded of vandalism by your force on churches or on church property from January 1, 2022 - December 30 2024?

## Note: Some forces do not log 'church' as a building type specifically and may instead log location as religious building. For the avoidance of doubt, I would like data related to religious buildings in this instance. If it is not possible to provide the information requested due to the information exceeding the cost of compliance limits identified in Section 12, please provide advice and assistance, under the Section 16 obligations of the Act, as to how I can refine my request.

Unfortunately, I estimate that it would cost well in excess of the current FOI cost threshold of £600 to process your request. I am therefore refusing to provide the information sought in terms of section 12(1) of the Act - Excessive Cost of Compliance.

By way of explanation, are unable to search crimes based on locus types. The only way to provide you with this information in an accurate and consistent manner would be to individually examine each crime report created on our systems to determine relevance to churches or religious buildings.

To be of assistance, If you were to provide addresses of specific churches or religious buildings that you are interested in, we may be able to assist further.

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.