| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 24-2562  Responded to: 04 November 2024 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

## Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, I would like to request the following information:

## Can you please provide me with:

## Information for a period from the start of 2020 up until the current date, with it broken down by year, or in any other way which is convenient.

## The number of times facial recognition has been deployed by your police force.

## The number of faces which have been scanned by your police force as part of the deployment of facial recognition technology.

## CLARIFICATION

## I am looking for instances where live facial recognition cameras are used - as opposed to other types of facial recognition.

## I also used the term 'deployment'. On this, I would like information on any use of this technology. I would not like it limited to instances where officers or equipment had to be sent to a certain location (as the word 'deployment' may be taken to mean.

I can advise you that Police Scotland does not hold the above requested information. In terms of Section 17 of the Act, this letter represents a formal notice that information is not held.

To explain, Police Scotland is not currently using or testing live facial recognition technology; however, we are monitoring police use elsewhere via UK policing forums.  We may, in the future, consider using this technology but only once it has been through our Rights Based Pathway, and we are satisfied its use is lawful, effective, proportionate, and ethical in a Scottish policing context to support keeping people safe.

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.