| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 23-0633  Responded to: 22nd March 2023 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

## - How many offences for cannabis cultivation did your force record in 2022?

## - How many offences for cannabis cultivation did your force record in 2021?

## If you recorded the type of location where the offences took place (commercial premises vs individual homes), could you please also give me:

## - the number of cannabis cultivation offences on commercial premises in 2022?

## - the number of cannabis cultivation offences on commercial premises in 2021?

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.

By way of explanation, crimes in Scotland are recorded in accordance with the Scottish Government Justice Department offence classification codes and are not thereafter sub-categorised. In this instance, drug offences are not sub-categorised by drug type.

The only possible way to establish whether the drug involved was cannabis, would be to carry out case by case assessment of all offences recorded as ‘Production, manufacture or cultivation of drugs’.

Furthermore, the crime recording systems used by Police Scotland have no facility which allows for the automatic retrieval of crimes reports where the locus was recorded as ‘commercial’.

As such, case by case assessment of all offences would also be required to establish the details of the locus - this is an exercise which I estimate would far exceed the cost limit set out in the Fees Regulations.

To be of some assistance, recorded and detected Production, manufacture or cultivation of drugs crime statistics are publicly available on the Police Scotland website, broken down by Multi-Member Ward area level:-

[Crime data - Police Scotland](https://www.scotland.police.uk/about-us/how-we-do-it/crime-data/)

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.