| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 24-0314  Responded to: 02 February 2024 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

**PART A**

**I am writing to request information regarding the communications between Police Scotland and the Scottish Government pertaining to the issue of shoplifting over the past three years.**

**Specifically, I am seeking all documented communications (including but not limited to emails, letters, meeting minutes, and briefing notes) between Police Scotland and the Scottish Government relating to the issue of shoplifting. This includes any discussions or correspondence regarding policies, strategies, statistics, or concerns about shoplifting. The time frame for this request is from 31/01/2020 to 31/01/2024.**

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.

To explain, we are unable to carry out a force wide search of all correspondence based on a particular subject matter. Research would involve extensive enquiry with all force departments and divisions, any of whom could have had cause to engage with the Scottish Government on this subject.

**PART B  
Please provide the total number of times that the following terms are mentioned in crime records held by Police Scotland, for each financial year from 2013/14 to 2022/23  
1. “TikTok”, “Tik Tok” and “Tik-Tok”  
2. “Snapchat” and “Snap chat”  
3. “Facebook”  
4. “Twitter”  
5. “Reddit”**

**6. "Instagram" and "Insta gram"**

**7. "YouTube" and "You Tube"**

**8. "Telegram"**

**9. "WeChat"**

**10. "LinkedIn"**

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.

To explain, we are unable to search crime reports based on the presence of particular words/ phrases.

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.