| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 23-1972  Responded to: 25 August 2023 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

## I would like to make the following request for information. For each of the past three years (1st August 2020 - 31st July 2021, 1st August 2021 - 31st July 2022 and 1st August 2022 - 31st July 2023):

## Q1) How many reports did your force receive of vehicles being vandalised?

## Q2) Which postal code areas had the most number of reports (please provide the top 5 if possible, including the number of reports you received for each postal code.).

Having considered your request 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, these types of offences would fall under the more general classification of vandalism rather than a specific classification of vandalism of vehicles. Therefore, all crime reports for vandalism would have to be manually examined to establish the nature of property vandalised.

To illustrate the numbers involved, published [crime statistics](https://www.scotland.police.uk/spa-media/llhi1znw/mmw_crime_data_2021_22_q4.xlsx) show that in financial year 2021/22 there were 38,081 recorded offences of vandalism. As each of these at the very minimum would have to be read, this is an exercise which would far exceed the cost limit set out in the Fees Regulations.

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.