| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 24-1866  Responded to: 06 August 2024 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

**i) I would like to know about the total number of cases of livestock theft reported in the calendar years 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024 (the latest available).**

**Please could these cases be provided with a yearly breakdown in spreadsheet format.**

**ii) Of the above cases, please could you tell me how many involved the theft of sheep. If this is not possible, alternatively could you provide the number of these theft cases where a keyword search of 'sheep' is conducted. Could these results also be provided with a yearly breakdown in a separate column.**

**iii) Please could you tell me how many cases from answer to request (i) resulted in a criminal conviction, also with a yearly breakdown. PLEASE DISREGARD (iii) if this would exceed the cost/time threshold of the FOI Act.**

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 of thefts by nature of property stolen (livestock) and we are unable to do a keyword search, therefore to provide you with the requested information, we would need to manually assess all crime reports for relevance.

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.