| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 24-0060  Responded to: 29 January 2024 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

**For the past year (Jan 1 2023 - Dec 31 2023) how many FOI requests were responded to with a response (rather than just a confirmation of receipt) later than 20 working days, and what is the total number of working days late in total that it took for FOI requests to be responded to.**

The information sought is held by Police Scotland, but I am refusing to provide it in terms of section 16(1) of the Act on the basis that the section 25(1) and 27(1) exemptions apply:

“Information which the applicant can reasonably obtain other than by requesting it […] is exempt information”.

“Information is exempt information if it is held with a view to its being published […] at a date not later than twelve weeks after that on which the request for the information is made”.

Data for the first three quarters of 2023 is currently available:

[FOI and EIRs statistics | Scottish Information Commissioner (itspublicknowledge.info)](https://www.itspublicknowledge.info/statistics)

To be of assistance, the figures are as follows:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Data** | **Quarter 1** | **Quarter 2** | **Quarter 3** |
| Requests received | 833 | 844 | 809 |
| Responded to within 20 days | 691 | 696 | 687 |

Data for quarter four is in the process of being compiled (many of the deadline dates for December requests are around now).

It will be submitted to OSIC by their deadline of Friday 9 February, and it will be published by them shortly thereafter.

I believe it is currently reasonable in all the circumstances that the information be withheld from disclosure. On balance, I also believe that maintaining the exemption outweighs any public interest in disclosing the information at this time.

**For requests that are still open and have not been responded to, please can you let me know how many there are from 2023 (Jan 1 2023-Dec 31 2023)?**

42 FOI requests received between January and December 2023 remain in progress at this time. 1 was due to be responded to in September, 1 in October, 5 in November, 17 in December and 18 in January (2024).

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.