| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information ResponseOur reference: FOI 24-3155Responded to: 18 December 2024 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

**Between the time period January 2023 and August 2024, data on how many days it takes from the initial reporting of child sexual abuse (including viewing of online CSA and CSE images) to case closure (court outcome or no further action) i.e how long does it take from report to court**

**We would like to know how long these people are out on the streets before any conviction (custodial, suspended sentence or release without charge)**

**Ideally broken down for each case but the data as an average for the police force area would be good too**

**Would also be helpful to know if you have any timescales are set by your force that these cases are supposed to be dealt within**

The information sought is not held by Police Scotland and section 17 of the Act therefore applies.

The Role of Police in Scotland, in relation to crimes and offences, is to investigate the circumstances and where sufficient evidence exists, to report the case to the relevant Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service (COPFS). It is then a matter for the Procurator Fiscal to determine whether to progress through the courts.

Prosecution information would be held by Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service and not Police Scotland. Any request for conviction data would therefore be better directed to them.

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 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 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.