| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information ResponseOur reference: FOI 23-1345Responded to: 09 June 2023 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

## 1. How many cases of cuckooing have you dealt with in the financial year of (a) 2018-19 (b) 2019-20 (c) 2020-21 (d) 2021-22 and (e) 2022-23?

## 2. How many cases of cuckooing have you dealt with in the financial year of (a) 2018-19 (b) 2019-20 (c) 2020-21 (d) 2021-22 and (e) 2022-23 have included victims with disabilities?

## 3. What is the average age of the victims of cuckooing across the financial years of (a) 2018-19 (b) 2019-20 (c) 2020-21 (d) 2021-22 and (e) 2022-23?

Having considered your request, 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, crimes in Scotland are recorded in accordance with the Scottish Government Justice Department [offence classification codes](https://www.gov.scot/binaries/content/documents/govscot/publications/factsheet/2017/02/recorded-crime-scotland-classification-crimes-offences/documents/recorded-crime--scotland-classification-crimes-offences/recorded-crime--scotland-classification-crimes-offences/govscot%3Adocument/RCS-classification-crimes-offences.xlsx) and in this instance, I’m afraid there is no specific offence of “cuckooing”. I can also advise you that there is no specific incident recording category which would apply to your request.

As such, any relevant offences/incidents would be recorded under a more general category and so case by case assessment would be required to determine the circumstances and identify any instances of “cuckooing”.

Carrying out case by case research of all potentially relevant reports is an exercise which I estimate would far exceed the cost limit set out in the Fees Regulations.

You can access our published crime statistics via the following link: [How we are performing - Police Scotland](https://www.scotland.police.uk/about-us/what-we-do/how-we-are-performing/)

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.