| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 23-2531  Responded to: 18 October 2023 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

## I am writing to make a freedom of information request on behalf of Killed Women, a campaigning network for family members who have lost a female relative to violence. ([www.killedwomen.org](https://gbr01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.killedwomen.org%2F&data=05%7C01%7Cfoi%40scotland.police.uk%7C7714849871aa4680db3108dbc0646198%7C6795c5d3c94b497a865c4c343e4cf141%7C0%7C0%7C638315309592418672%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=FVyiaxIMJbIr5EGP61tL1ghykdwgd9SoZ0pof4jGB%2FY%3D&reserved=0))

## We would like to request the following information from you to better understand incidents of women falling from height where serious injury or death occurs.

## For all the questions, we would need data from the period of 1973-2023.

## 1. Can you tell us how many reports of women falling from height the height of a building or public place were made to you between 1973 and 2023;

## 2. How many of those falls resulted in death?

## 3. In how many cases were there witnesses to the fall?

## 4. How many of these cases had a marker of domestic abuse relating to the woman who fell, her address or a partner or family member;

**5. How many of these cases led to a charge of homicide or attempted homicide, GBH or ABH;**

Having considered these questions 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, there is no means to search incidents or non-criminal deaths based on the nature of event. Therefore given the timeframe requested and the associated number of reports this is an exercise which I estimate would far exceed the cost limit set out in the Fees Regulations.

However to be of assistance our Homicide Governance and Review Department has provided the following:

Homicide Governance and Review only holds information relating to homicides or suspicious death. During the period requested there were 10 homicides involving women falling from height of a building or height in a public place. Three of these were witnessed by members of the public and one case involved a victim where previous domestic abuse was recorded by police. In total 9 of these cases resulted in the accused(s) being charged and the circumstances being reported to Crown Office and Procurator Fiscals Service (COPFS).

## 6. Were there any convictions? … and if so please can you specify.

Police Scotland does not generally hold conviction information.

However, to be of assistance our Homicide Governance and Review Department has provided the following:

Of the 9 cases where the accused(s) were charged:

* One was found guilty of murder and sentence to minimum of 20 years.
* Two were found guilty of murder, however, following appeal the convictions were quashed
* One was found guilty of culpable homicide and placed within the State Hospital
* One was found guilty of serious assault and admonished
* One was found not proven following trial
* One was found not guilty following trial
* No further proceedings were taken in one
* Criminal proceedings remain live for one case

Should you wish further information with regard to the prosecution/conviction for the offences, you should contact the Crown Office and Procurator Fiscals Service (COPFS) which holds conviction information for Scotland. A request can be submitted to COPFS via email using the following address foi@copfs.gsi.gov.uk

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.