| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 23-0700  Responded to: 28 March 2023 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

1) **How many reports of cuckooing did police receive in 2021 in Scotland?**

**1b) In which local authority did police receive the most reports of cuckooing in 2021?**

**2)** **How many reports of cuckooing did police receive in 2022 in Scotland?**

**2b) In which local authority did police receive the most reports of cuckooing in 2022?**

**3)** **How many reports of cuckooing have police received in 2023 so far in Scotland?**

**3b) In which local authority have police received the most reports of cuckooing in 2023 so far?**

**4)** **How many reports of cuckooing did police respond to that originated as a safeguarding alert from a local authority in 2021 in Scotland?**

**4b) In which local authority did police receive the most reports of cuckooing in 2021 that originated as a safeguarding alert from a local authority?**

**5)** **How many reports of cuckooing did police respond to that originated as a safeguarding alert from a local authority in 2022 in Scotland?**

**5b) In which local authority did police receive the most reports of cuckooing in 2022 that originated as a safeguarding alert from a local authority?**

**6)** **How many reports of cuckooing have police received in 2023 so far in Scotland that originated as a safeguarding alert from a local authority?**

**6b) In which local authority have police received the most reports of cuckooing in 2023 so far that originated as a safeguarding alert from a local authority?**

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.

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.