| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 23-1258  Responded to: 09 June 2023 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

## I would like to make a freedom of information request regarding safety and security. I would like to have information about all convicted/suspected sex offenders, convicted /suspected child abusers, and convicted/suspected murders in the area who are moving in or already living in or around my area PA15/PA16.

With regards to information regarding registered sex offenders, please be advised that the above requested information is publicly available on our website:

<https://www.scotland.police.uk/about-us/what-we-do/specialist-crime-division/sex-offender-policing-units/registered-sex-offender-rso-information/>

As such, in terms of Section 16 of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002, I am refusing to provide you with the information sought. Section 16 requires Police Scotland when refusing to provide such information because it is exempt, to provide you with a notice which states that it holds the information states that it is claiming an exemption, specifies the exemption in question and states, if that would not be otherwise apparent, why the exemption applies.

I can confirm that Police Scotland holds the information that you have requested and the exemption that I consider to be applicable is set out at Section 25(1) of the Act - information otherwise accessible:

“Information which the applicant can reasonably obtain other than by requesting it under Section 1(1) is exempt information”.

With regards to providing the amount of convicted/suspected child abusers and convicted/suspected murderers in the area who are moving in or already living in or around my area PA15/PA16 I regret to inform you that I am unable to provide you with the information you have requested above. Therefore in accordance with Sections 12(1) (Excessive cost of compliance) and 16(4) (Refusal of request) of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 (the Act), this letter represents a Refusal Notice.

By way of explanation, Greenock houses a prison and as such may contain persons currently awaiting trial/serving sentences for Sex Offences and Murders. This would fall under PA16 area of Greenock and therefore would not provide a true reflection of figures. For the remaining population, I would have to research each crime committed within the area and cross reference it with data from various systems to establish if they reside in the area, if the conviction was spent, etc and this 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.

## I would also make a request to ask information about suspected and ongoing criminal/ anti-social activities which is under Greenock Police's notice and or investigated by Greenock police from past 6 months to current date.

With regards to providing the amount of suspected and ongoing criminal/anti-social activities within the Greenock area I again regret to inform you that I am unable to provide you with the information you have requested above. Therefore in accordance with Sections 12(1) (Excessive cost of compliance) and 16(4) (Refusal of request) of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 (the Act), this letter represents a Refusal Notice.

By way of explanation, the only way to provide this information would be to physically examine each Storm incident to identify if relates to your query above. In total there are 12,713 Storm incidents recorded for last 12 months. If I was to use the example that it took 5 minutes to check each of these reports to identify your question above then calculations show it would take approximately 1,059 hours, and would cost approximately £15,891 to carry out this task. This is in excess of the £600 prescribed by the Scottish Ministers under the Act.

To be of assistance I have attached separately recorded/detected crimes for PA15/PA16 area for your information.

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.