| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information ResponseOur reference: FOI 24-2493Responded to: 16 October 2024 |
| --- | --- |

Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

## For crimes reported between 01/01/2019 and 11/08/2024 that include the word "Grindr" (referring to the dating app only) AND whereby the alleged victim of the offence was under the age of 18, please provide how many people were:

## (a) charged with an offence (and if so, for what),

Unfortunately, I estimate that it would cost well in excess of the current FOI cost threshold of £600 to process your request. I am therefore refusing to provide the information sought in terms of section 12(1) of the Act - Excessive Cost of Compliance.

By way of explanation, the crime recording systems used by Police Scotland have no facility which allows for us to conduct a keyword search of crime reports. Furthermore, we are unable to search crime reports based on the age of the victim at the time of the offence.

The only way to answer your request, would be to individually examine all crime reports for the time period requested.

## (b) sentenced (and if so, for how long).

I can advise you that Police Scotland does not hold the requested information. In terms of Section 17 of the Act, this letter represents a formal notice that information is not held. By way of explanation, the role of the police in Scotland, in relation to crimes and offences, is to investigate the circumstances and where sufficient evidence exists to then report the matter to the relevant Procurator Fiscal. It is a matter for the Procurator Fiscal to decide on and to progress any prosecution through the courts. The disposal in relation to cases reported to the Procurator Fiscal is not routinely passed to the police, therefore, the Service do not hold the information requested.

By way of assistance, I have listed below contact details for the Crown Office and Procurator Fiscals Service who may be able to assist you in this matter:

Crown Office, 25 Chambers Street, Edinburgh, EH1 1LA or via <http://www.copfs.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 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.