| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 23-1493  Responded to: 3rd July 2023 |
| --- | --- |

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

## I would like the below to be applied to each year stated as follows 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023.

## 2010 – Of all the assaults reported on females, how many were perpetrated by women and how many by men

In response to this question, 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, the crime recording systems used by Police Scotland have no facility whereby the gender of the accused, or the victim, can be easily extracted, nor is it possible to carry out a search of crime reports based upon the gender of an individual.

As such, case by case assessment of all crime reports related to an assault, for the time period requested, would have to be carried out to establish the gender of the accused and victim.

This would involve individually examining thousands of reports which is an exercise which I estimate would far exceed the cost limit set out in the Fees Regulations.

## Out of all calls made about domestic abuse/ assault, how many were men who called, how many were women

## Of males calling about domestic abuse, how many are taken further, i.e. reported to Fiscal.

## Of females calling about domestic abuse, how many are taken further, i.e. reported to Fiscal

## How many male calls of domestic are just put down as “making false allegation” i.e. not followed up. The ration and numbers.

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.

To explain, whilst Police Scotland’s incident recording system STORM can be searched for domestic incidents, there is no facility available which would allow for a search to be carried out by gender of the caller or the outcome of the report.

Each and every domestic incident report would have to be individually examined to establish details of the reporter and the outcome of the report which is an exercise that I estimate would far exceed the £600 cost limit set out in the Fees Regulations.

If it would be of some assistance, we could provide recorded and detected Domestic Abuse crime statistics by gender of the victim. If this is of interest to you, please let us know and a new request can be progressed.

## Already asked this one but am defining it, well making it easier as told too much to do, so this more simple request. How many people reported for perjury and or wasting police time. Collective figure is fine.

## Of the above request, how many were reported to Fiscal for prosecution.

Please be advised that statistics regarding Perjury offences are publicly available.

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:

(a) states that it holds the information,

(b) states that it is claiming an exemption,

(c) specifies the exemption in question and

(d) 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 exemptions that I consider to be applicable are set out at Section 25(1) and Section 27(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”*

*“Information is exempt information if it is held with a view to its being published […] at a date not later than twelve weeks after that on which the request for the information is made.”*

The information you are seeking is available on the Police Scotland website, broken down into Multi-Member Area level, via the following link:

[Crime data - Police Scotland](https://www.scotland.police.uk/about-us/how-we-do-it/crime-data/)

Please find attached a hard copy of these crime statistics.

Data from the period prior to 2021/22 will be published in due course.

## I have couple questions I would like answered or at least pointed in right direction to get the information I require.

## Firstly, when a woman has been reported for a domestic related crime, do the police contact all her previous partners to build up a picture of her offending behaviour.

## Secondly, I require a copy of Police Scotland Standard Operating Procedure. I know available on internet but I have no access so require hard copy.

Please be advised that the information you are seeking is publicly available.

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:

(a) states that it holds the information,

(b) states that it is claiming an exemption,

(c) specifies the exemption in question and

(d) 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”*

The information you are seeking is available within the Domestic Abuse Investigation Standard Operating Procedure (SOP):-

[Domestic Abuse Investigation SOP](https://www.scotland.police.uk/spa-media/fuaflohy/domestic-abuse-investigation-sop.pdf)

A hard copy is attached.

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.