| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 24-0591  Responded to: 25 March 2024 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

**The number of rape allegations made in 2023?**

There were 2386 rape allegations recorded in 2023.

**The number of cases which involved sanitary pads (specifically pads, not tampons)?**

We are unable to search crime reports based on the presence of particular words/ phrases. To fully answer your question, each record would have to be manually reviewed. 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.

**How many of these sanitary pads were submitted to SPA for examination and how many of these sanitary pads were actually examined by SPA?**

The information sought is not held by Police Scotland and section 17 of the Act therefore applies. By way of explanation, Scottish Police Authority (SPA) is a separate organisation to Police Scotland. I suggest you re-direct your request to the SPA. For ease, I have provided you a link to the appropriate address.

[foi@spa.police.uk](mailto:foi@spa.police.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.