| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 23-2649  Responded to: 31st October 2023 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

**Could you please tell me for the years 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022 and 2023 [current number as of 12th October]:**

**• the number of suspected female suicides attended by police officers where domestic abuse has been a concern/previously recorded [this can be past reports linked to that specific address or individual]**

**• if applicable, the number of convictions of a male perpetrator for domestic abuse offences after a woman has taken her own life**

Prior to answering your request, you should be aware that National Records of Scotland publish information regarding the prevalence of suicide in Scotland. Information is available online, with a breakdown by gender and age groups:-

[National Records Scotland – Probable Suicides](https://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/statistics-and-data/statistics/statistics-by-theme/vital-events/deaths/suicides)

In response to these questions, 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, any such incidents reported to Police Scotland are classified on our incident recording system, STORM, as ‘Suicide/ Attempt/ Self-Harm’. The category used will encompass reports of deaths thought to be from suicide (bearing in mind that this is at a very early stage- pre investigation) but also any attempted suicides and self-harm incidents.

The incident recording system does not have a facility whereby the gender of the individual can be easily extracted. Nor is it possible to carry out a search of incident reports by gender.

As such, case by case assessment of all ‘Suicide/ Attempt/ Self-Harm’ incident reports would have to be carried out to establish details of the person involved and thereafter check whether they had previously reported domestic related incidents – an exercise which I estimate would far exceed the cost limit set out in the Fees Regulations.

Similarly, we are unable to search Sudden Death Reports by the suspected cause of death.

Notwithstanding the difficulties outlined above, Police Scotland does not record conviction information and as such, Section 17 of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 has been applied to question 2.

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.