

02 March 2015

Your Ref:

Our Ref: IM-FOI-2015-0243



Sir Stephen House QPM
Chief Constable

FOI Central Processing Unit
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FREEDOM OF INFORMATION (SCOTLAND) ACT 2002
SUBJECT: HATE CRIMES

I refer to your email dated 02 February 2015 regarding the above which has been handled in accordance with the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 (FOISA).

QUESTION

- 1. How many reported hate crimes were there in the Tayside area in 2014?*
- 2. How many reported hate crimes were there in The Lothian's in 2014?*
- 3. What percentage of all crimes in the Tayside area are hate crimes?*
- 4. What percentage of all crimes in The Lothian's are hate crimes?*
- 5. What is being done to tackle hate crime in these specific areas?*

RESPONSE

As requested, please find below details on the number of hate crimes reported to Police Scotland within two specific divisional areas, Tayside and the Lothians and Scottish Borders. I have also provided you figures held on all crimes reported for both these divisions. This will allow you to make your own comparison of figures based on percentages.

**Recorded Crimes and Offences: Year-to-date (April - December)
By Selected Division.**

Crime totals	Tayside	The Lothian & Scottish Borders
	No.	No.
Total Crimes and Offences (Groups 1 - 7) - Overall Crimes	28 117	27 934
Total Crimes and Offences (Groups 1 - 7) - Hate Crimes	256	356

All statistics are provisional and should be treated as management information. All data have been extracted from Police Scotland internal systems and are correct as at 16th February 2015.

Police Scotland are committed to robustly tackling all hate crime as we are aware of the impact it can have on victims and the corrosive effect it can have in our communities. In order to effectively tackle it we must be aware of each incident so always encourage victims to report every incident, no matter how minor. To encourage more reporting we have established nearly 300 Third Party Reporting sites around the country where people can report crime in an environment they perhaps feel more comfortable doing so. Reports can also be made on line or in person at any police office. At a local level, local policing teams robustly investigate all hate crime in a sensitive manner; ensuring victims are dealt with fairly and with dignity and respect. Hate crime is monitored nationally by the National Safer Communities department, who work with national partners and stakeholders jointly to deal with national issues as they arise.

I trust that the information available is of assistance and should you require any further assistance concerning this matter please contact me on 0131 311 3901 quoting the reference number given.

If you are not satisfied with the way in which your request has been dealt with, you are entitled in the first instance and within 40 working days of receiving this letter to request a review of the decision made by the Service. Should you wish to do so, contact details are; Police Scotland, FOI Central Processing Unit, Clyde Gateway, 2 French Street, Dalmarock, G40 4EH. (Or email foi@scotland.pnn.police.uk).

Once informed of the review decision, if you are still not satisfied, then you are entitled to apply to the Scottish Information Commissioner within six months for a decision. The contact details are: Office of the Scottish Information Commissioner, Kinburn Castle, Doubledykes Road, St Andrews, Fife, KY16 9DS, telephone 01334 464610. Should you wish to appeal against the Scottish Information Commissioner's decision, there is an appeal to the Court of Session on a point of law only.

Yours sincerely

Paul Wallace
Information Management Unit