

Our Ref: IM-FOI-2016-0517

16th March 2016



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION (SCOTLAND) ACT 2002

I refer to your recent request for information which has been handled in accordance with the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002.

For ease of reference, your request is replicated below together with the response.

The Dog Fouling (Scotland) Act 2003, section 5 (1) (b) allows for Police Officers to issue a Fixed Penalty Notice in relation to persons failing to pick up their dogs foul, in certain circumstances. In each year since the formation of Police Scotland in April 2013, I would like to know how many of these Fixed Penalty Notices have been issued by Police Scotland.

Number of Dog Fouling Crimes: Scotland

From: 1 April 2013 - 31 March 2015

| | 2013/14 | 2014/15 |
|-------------|---------|---------|
| Dog Fouling | 113 | 79 |

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 3 March 2016.

Data was abstracted from the Static Pot via Date Raised, no crimes and duplicated records excluded.

Please note that the above figures represent the number of crimes reported and dealt with by the police and not fixed penalty notices. Regarding the issuing of fixed penalty notices, I regret to inform you that I am unable to provide you with the information you have requested as not all dog fouling offences are dealt with by the police and that local council enforcement officers issue fixed penalty notices for this. Thus for this part of your request the information you seek is held by the various local authorities. We are therefore unable to answer this part of your request as the information is not held. Section 17 of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 is therefore applied – information not held.

By way of assistance further information on the legislation can be found on the following link:

<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/asp/2003/12/contents>

Should you require any further assistance concerning this matter please contact Information Management, Stirling on 01786 456321 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 response, to request a review of the decision. Should you wish to do so, contact details are; Information Management (Disclosure), Police Scotland, Clyde Gateway, 2 French Street, Dalmarlock, G40 4EH - foi@scotland.pnn.police.uk

If you remain dissatisfied following the outcome of that review, you are thereafter entitled to apply to the Scottish Information Commissioner within six months for a decision. Contact details are; Office of the Scottish Information Commissioner, Kinburn Castle, Doubledykes Road, St Andrews, Fife, KY16 9DS - enquiries@itspublicknowledge.info

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.

Information Management – Stirling
01786 456321