A consultation on the future of recorded crime and police activity statistics

Scottish Government
Riaghaltas na h-Alba
gov.scot

Contents

Introduction

1. Scottish Government statisticians currently publish two bulletins on crimes and offences recorded by the police in Scotland. This includes an annual release of National Statistics, and a much shorter monthly release of Official Statistics. The latest National Statistics, covering 2020-21, were published on the 28th September[1]. The latest Official Statistics, covering August 2021, were published on the 23rd September[2].

2. This consultation asks users a series of questions on the production and dissemination of Scotland's recorded crime statistics, for which we would like to invite feedback. Questions are also asked on the possible development of new analysis on other types of policing activity. The responses we receive will then help inform our long term strategy for the delivery of crime and policing statistics.

3. Regular consultation with users is a key requirement of the Code of Practice for Official Statistics[3]. It helps ensure Scotland's recorded crime statistics are of high value, through their relevance to those who use them, and their capacity to support understanding of the important issues relating to crime in Scotland (alongside other complementary sources of Official statistics and research).

4. The consultation is split into four sections:

    - Part One presents a follow-up discussion to an earlier consultation in 2019, which asked respondents to consider an alternative way to group and present statistics on recorded crime. The Scottish Crime Recording Board (henceforth referred to as the Crime Board) have since reviewed responses and would like to invite final feedback on a proposed new set of Crime Groups, prior to any changes being implemented in 2022.

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[1] Recorded Crime in Scotland, 2020-2021 - gov.scot (www.gov.scot)

[2] Recorded Crime in Scotland: August 2021 - gov.scot (www.gov.scot)

[3] Code of Practice for Statistics (statisticsauthority.gov.uk)

- Part Two gives users an opportunity to offer their views on the best way to disseminate recorded crime statistics (including for example questions on the frequency and content of our publications).

- Part Three invites users to consider and provide feedback on the potential production of new statistics on other types of police activity, beyond just those on recorded crime.

- Part Four gives users the opportunity to provide any additional feedback to this consultation not discussed in any of the previous sections.

5. Following the closing date, responses will be reviewed along with any other available evidence, to help develop our plans for the production of these statistics. In addition to this, the Crime Board will consider a finalised set of groups for the presentation of crime statistics (as discussed in Part One). Once changes to the crime groups have been implemented, a revised set of times series data will also be published.

6. The Scottish Government's Scottish Crime and Justice Survey (SCJS) is another signature product on crime in Scotland and provides complementary measures of crime and victimisation. Whilst this consultation focuses on crimes and activity recorded by the police, users may also have an interest in a concurrently running consultation on the future of the survey, prior to its re-procurement. This opened on the 23rd September, with more details on the Citizen Space webpage: Scottish Crime and Justice Survey - Scottish Government - Citizen Space (consult.gov.scot).

Responding to this consultation

We are inviting responses to this by 10th December 2021.

Please respond to this consultation using the Scottish Government's consultation hub, Citizen Space (https://consult.gov.scot). Access and respond to this consultation at https://consult.gov.scot/justice/future-of-recorded-crime-and-police-activity-stats. You can save and return to your responses while the consultation is still open. Please ensure that consultation responses are submitted before the closing date of 10th December.

If you are unable to respond using our consultation hub, please complete and send the Respondent Information Form to: crimeconsultation@gov.scot

Handling your response

If you respond using the consultation hub, you will be directed to the 'About You' page before submitting your response. Please indicate how you wish your response to be handled and, in particular, whether you are content for your response to be published. If you ask for your response not to be published, we will regard it as confidential, and we will treat it accordingly.

All respondents should be aware that the Scottish Government is subject to the provisions of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 and would therefore have to consider any request made to it under the Act for information relating to responses made to this consultation exercise.

If you are unable to respond via Citizen Space, please complete and return the Respondent Information Form included in this document by email.

To find out how we handle your personal data, please see our privacy policy: https://www.gov.scot/privacy/

Next steps in the process

Where respondents have given permission for their response to be made public, and after we have checked that they contain no potentially defamatory material, responses will be made available to the public at http://consult.gov.scot. If you use the consultation hub to respond, you will receive a copy of your response via email.

Following the closing date, all responses will be analysed and considered along with any other available evidence to help us. Responses will be published where we have been given permission to do so. An analysis report will also be made available.

Comments and complaints

If you have any comments about how this consultation exercise has been conducted, please send them to crimeconsultation@gov.scot.

The Scottish Government consultation process

Consultation is an essential part of the policymaking process. It gives us the opportunity to consider your opinion and expertise on a proposed area of work.

You can find all our consultations online: http://consult.gov.scot. Each consultation details the issues under consideration, as well as a way for you to give us your views, either online or by email.

Responses will be analysed and used as part of the decision making process, along with a range of other available information and evidence. We will publish a report of this analysis for every consultation. Depending on the nature of the consultation exercise the responses may:

- indicate the need for policy development or review
- inform the development of a particular policy
- help decisions to be made between alternative policy proposals
- be used to finalise legislation before it is implemented

While details of particular circumstances described in a response to a consultation exercise may usefully inform the policy process, consultation exercises cannot address individual concerns and comments, which should be directed to the relevant public body.

RESPONDENT INFORMATION FORM

Please Note this form **must** be completed and returned with your response.

To find out how we handle your personal data, please see our privacy policy: https://www.gov.scot/privacy/

Are you responding as an individual or an organisation?

☐ Individual

☐ Organisation

Full name or organisation's name

[   ]

Phone number

[   ]

Address

[   ]

Postcode

[   ]

Email

[   ]

The Scottish Government would like your permission to publish your consultation response. Please indicate your publishing preference:

☐ Publish response with name

☐ Publish response only (without name)

☐ Do not publish response

Information for organisations:

The option 'Publish response only (without name)' is available for individual respondents only. If this option is selected, the organisation name will still be published.

If you choose the option 'Do not publish response', your organisation name may still be listed as having responded to the consultation in, for example, the analysis report.

We will share your response with the Scottish Crime Recording Board (on whose behalf this consultation is being run), who may be addressing the issues you discuss. We may wish to contact you again in the future, but we require your permission to do so. Are you content for Scottish Government to contact you again in relation to this consultation exercise?

☐   Yes

☐   No

Part One – Proposal to introduce new Crime Groups in 2022

7. Statistics on recorded crime are currently split into five groups, namely non-sexual crimes of violence, sexual crimes, crimes of dishonesty, fire-raising/vandalism etc. and other crimes. Crimes recorded under the specific Coronavirus legislation enacted since March 2020 have also been presented as a separate group in recent publications. A further two groups are used to present data on recorded offences – miscellaneous offences and motor vehicle offences (see Annex A). This section invites users to provide feedback on a new grouping structure, which may be introduced in 2022.

8. The new grouping structure is based on feedback received from an earlier consultation in 2019, which asked respondents to consider an alternative way to present recorded crime statistics. This alternative proposed a greater number of groups, replacing the existing grouping structure with a more granular approach.

9. A report summarising the responses received through this earlier engagement was published in June 2021, following some delay due to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic and the resultant increase in demand for associated analysis: Official Statistics - recorded crime and related topics: consultation responses - summary - gov.scot (www.gov.scot)

10. The summary report highlighted that for some questions there was unanimous or clear majority agreement amongst users, whilst in other areas opinions were more varied.

11. Where there was unanimous or clear majority agreement, this has been reflected in the new groups proposed for the presentation of statistics on recorded crimes and offences. As such, the new grouping structure will include:

    - Common assault being re-classified from an offence to a crime (and as such moved into Scotland's recorded crime total)

- Common assault being further broken down into common assault with injury and common assault without injury

- The 'Fire raising, vandalism etc.' group being renamed to 'Crimes of damage and reckless behaviour'

- Stalking being re-classified from an offence to a crime (and as with common assault, being moved in Scotland's recorded crime total)

- Crimes of Drug possession (for personal use) continuing to be classified as crimes (rather than offences)

- The 'Miscellaneous offences' group being split into two groups - 'Anti-social offences' and 'Miscellaneous offences' and

- The 'Motor vehicle offences' group being renamed 'Road traffic offences'

12. In other areas opinions were more mixed. The most significant was between (i) a desire to have a more detailed and granular approach to grouping crimes and offences, and therefore more than the existing groups (as suggested in the 2019 consultation) and (ii) a desire for simplicity and as such to still have one group and in effect one total within these statistics to cover non-sexual crimes of violence, and likewise for sexual crimes.

13. Given the above variation in user feedback, we have provided two options within this consultation for the new grouping structure. The first, Option A (see Annex B) retains fewer broader groups for crimes and offences, and continues to present one group for non-sexual crimes of violence and one group for sexual crimes. The second, Option B (see Annex C) takes the more granular approach, with several more groups than at present, and is similar to the alternative groups presented to users in the 2019 consultation.

14. We would like to invite user views through this consultation on whether they would prefer Option A or Option B for the new grouping structure.

This will then help inform the Crime Board's final decision, prior to the possible introduction of these new groups in 2022.

15.   A complete breakdown of where individual crime and offence types are placed within the current classification as well as for Option A and B can be found within the supplementary tables available at: https://www.gov.scot/ISBN/978-1-80201-535-5/documents/

Proposal for splitting Common assault into with injury and without injury

16.   Common assault is currently classified as a miscellaneous offence. The 2019 consultation asked (i) whether this should be re-classified as a crime (and therefore be included in Scotland's count of recorded crime) and (ii) whether we should split Common assault into Common assault with physical injury and Common assault without physical injury (henceforth shortened to Common assault with / without injury). Such a breakdown would provide additional detail on the different characteristics of Common assault, and would be a similar approach to that taken for England & Wales by the Office for National Statistics.

17.   As highlighted in paragraph 11 above, there was agreement from users that reclassifying the offence of Common assault as a crime, and therefore seeing it included within the totals for recorded crime in Scotland, would increase the value of these statistics. Users also emphasised the importance of ensuring that any change could be back-revised, so that a consistent time-series was available. Finally, should such a change be made, they highlighted the importance of explaining the impact of this to users within the recorded crime statistics.

18.   Respondents were also supportive of separating Common assault into with and without injury, albeit there was some concern about the terms 'with injury' and 'without injury', as the latter might be viewed as suggesting a less severe form of Common assault, overlooking the impact of psychological injuries, which could still cause significant harm.

19.   As there was such a high level of support to re-classify Common assault as a crime, this has been included in both options highlighted in paragraph 13.

20. The Crime Board has undertaken further work to refine the proposed definition of Common assault with / without injury. Once introduced, this is the definition police officers will use when recording these crimes, subject to any future amendments that may be required as a result of feedback received from this consultation or other developments. These proposed definitions are provided below.

Common assault with injury

Common assault with injury would include any case where the victim sustained at least one of the following type of injury:
- Grazes
- Scratches
- Bruising
- Reddening of the skin
- Swelling
- Black eye
- A broken nose which only includes breakage of cartilage and no corrective surgery required
- Any non-visible injury causing more than a passing moment of pain or discomfort, which has an adverse impact on the victim
- Any act causing infection (for example spitting or coughing)

It should be noted that if the extent of injury is deemed serious e.g. resulting in detention in hospital for treatment of the injury (including broken bones, cuts and lacerations that will scar etc.), then a Serious assault will be recorded instead. This represents no change from current recording practice.

Common assault without injury

Any deliberate attack upon the person by another that leaves no visible mark or injury, does not cause more than a passing moment of pain or discomfort, and has no adverse impact on the victim. Acts such as spitting or coughing at a person would also amount to a non-injury assault unless confirmed that the act caused an infection.

Impact on other statistical bulletins

21. The approach outlined in paragraph 7 for the grouping and presentation of police recorded crime statistics is also used in other publications on related topics – the largest of which is the National Statistics on Criminal Proceedings in Scotland. This presents information on the

outcome of court proceedings, including a detailed breakdown for each of the seven crime and offence groups. Similar information on the committing of crimes and offences is also provided in topic-based bulletins on specific areas of police or justice-related activity (for example [police recorded Domestic Abuse](#) or [Reconvictions of Offenders](#)).

22.   To ensure the existing level of continuity between these different statistics is maintained, it is very likely that any changes made to how criminal activity is presented within the police recorded crime bulletin will also be fully reflected within the other statistical bulletins. Statisticians responsible for those other products have contributed to the production of this consultation, and would like to invite their own users to respond if they have any views.

23.   In addition to the National Statistics on police recorded crime, Police Scotland publish a [quarterly management information report](#). These reports are produced to demonstrate Police Scotland's commitment to transparency and are based on crime and offence data drawn from their administrative systems, prior to its quality assurance for the National Statistics. Police Scotland plan to reflect any changes to the grouping structure, as a result of this consultation, to the presentation of data within these reports.

Questions to consider

Considering the two options proposed for the new grouping of crimes and offences:

- **Option A (retain fewer broader groups, with the addition of one offence group) (Annex B)**

- **Option B (have a more detailed and granular approach, similar to the 2019 consultation alternative with sixteen groups) (Annex C)**

Question One

Would you have a preference between Option A and Option B? If so, why?

Question Two

Does your preferred option meet your needs? Is there anything we can do to increase the value of it?

Question Three

Regarding common assault, are you content with the proposed definition of with / without injury?

Question Four

Do you have any further feedback on this part of the consultation?

Part Two – Dissemination of Recorded Crime Statistics

Introduction

24.   This part of the consultation gives users an opportunity to provide any views they may have on how the Police Recorded Crime Statistics are disseminated (including for example questions on the frequency and content of our publications). This feedback will (i) help shape the way we present future releases of the National Statistics and (ii) allow us to gauge user interest in a range of analytical developments which may become possible due to changes in the administrative system used to record crime data.

Statistics on recorded crime in other countries

25.   To aid consideration of how recorded crime statistics in Scotland are disseminated, we have included analysis below of how crime statistics are produced in a selection of other countries. This desk-based research, carried out by Scottish Government researchers in 2021, looked at what Scotland and 11 other countries[4], publish as police recorded crime statistics. They considered:

- The format of police recorded crime statistics publications

- Their coverage – including type of crime, demographic breakdowns and time series data, and

- Issues around governance, user engagement, new and future developments and the use of complementary data sources

26.   Most but not all countries provide some form of written commentary, apart from Denmark and Norway. Scotland, along with England and Wales, Northern Ireland, Canada and Germany provided a detailed written commentary. Scotland's report was significantly longer than most other countries that were reviewed.

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[4] Australia, Canada, Denmark, England and Wales, Finland, Germany, Ireland, New Zealand, Northern Ireland, Norway, Sweden

27. Most countries present statistical information in the form of tables and charts. Some countries provide "hover charts" – where hovering the mouse over data points in online charts shows figures. England and Wales provide interactive charts, such as selecting an area on a map to see for example knife crime rates in that area, and the percentage change from the previous year.

28. Most of the countries selected allow users to download Excel spreadsheets of the data that sits behind charts. Most countries looked at (apart from Canada, Sweden and Germany) allow users to download open access data and customised data tables e.g. to provide detailed breakdowns by state and territory (Australia).

29. The majority of countries publish their crime statistics on an annual basis, with a few publishing monthly or quarterly in addition to this.

30. All the countries looked at provide statistics at a national level. It is fairly common to provide statistics for at least one sub-national level breakdown at a level equivalent to a Local Authority / Region / State / Province / Territory. Only three countries provide statistics at a second, more detailed sub-national level (Finland, Germany and Norway), with both Finland and Norway reporting on more than 300 municipalities and Germany on 40 large cities.

31. Scotland and England and Wales were the only countries looked at who do not provide demographic breakdowns for victims or suspects as part of their police recorded crime statistics. All other countries provided at least some demographic information for both victim and suspect.

Current publications on Recorded Crime in Scotland

Annual publication

32. The Recorded Crime in Scotland bulletin presents National Statistics on crimes and offences recorded by the police. Statistics on crimes and offences recorded by the police provide a measure of the volume of criminal activity with which the police are faced. The most recent data for 2020-21 was published on 28th September 2021: [Recorded Crime in Scotland, 2020-2021 - gov.scot (www.gov.scot)](#)

33. The bulletin provides in-depth commentary and as highlighted in [paragraph 26](#) is significantly longer and more detailed than other countries' publications. The bulletin includes tables within the document as well as in Excel format.

34. In the 2020-21 edition of the annual bulletin, a new cyber-crime chapter, presenting the latest available information on recorded cyber-crime in Scotland was added. This includes an estimate of the proportion of recorded crime which is cyber-crime (based on the review of a random sample of crime records). This was added in response to user support for new cyber-crime analysis, as demonstrated in the 2019 consultation. We would like to understand if this has been valuable to users, and if there is anything we can do to improve this analysis in future.

Question Five

How do you use the annual Recorded Crime in Scotland bulletin? For example, to read through the commentary, pull out figures from tables, conduct your own detailed analysis of the data, etc.

Question Six

Does the depth of commentary meet your needs? Would it be an issue if we reduced the amount of commentary down to just the main points? (and for example removed more of the background detail to a separate user guide?)

Question Seven

Does the way we currently present our data (in tables and charts) meet your needs? If we were to remove the tables from the bulletin and provide them in Excel format only, would this cause you an issue?

Question Eight

Did you find the presentation of information relating to cyber-crime in the 2020-21 annual bulletin useful? Would you suggest any improvements?

Question Nine

One potential development is to produce future annual reports which rotate around certain themes (such as violent crime or sexual crime) alongside a

general summary long term trends on recorded crime. Would you find this approach helpful? If so, what topics would be of interest?

<u>Question Ten</u>

Is there anything else we can do to increase the value of the annual publication?

Scottish Crime and Justice Survey

35. Crime in Scotland is also measured by the [Scottish Crime and Justice Survey (SCJS)](#), a national survey of adults (aged 16 and over) living in private households, which asks respondents about their experiences and perceptions of crime.

36. The SCJS and police recorded crime cover different populations and different timescales, and the SCJS does not cover the entire range of crimes and offences that the police are faced with. These and other differences mean that making direct comparisons between the two sources is not straightforward. However, the two sources present complementary information on crime occurring in Scotland, it is therefore helpful and informative to look at these sources together.

37. The Recorded Crime in Scotland annual bulletin includes a [chapter](#) which compares police recorded crime data with SCJS findings. It does this in two ways:

    o National trends of overall crime captured by police recorded crime and by the SCJS.

    o Comparable crime groups – a grouping of crimes specifically constructed to allow comparison between the SCJS and police recorded crime statistics for a set of crimes that are covered by both sources.

<u>Question Eleven</u>

Do you find the chapter comparing Police Recorded Crime and Scottish Crime and Justice Survey's findings useful? Would you suggest any improvements to the way in which this is presented?

Monthly Statistics

38. The Scottish Government started producing monthly Official Statistics on Recorded Crime in Scotland from April 2020, to inform users about the impact of the Coronavirus pandemic (and related actions to limit social interaction) on the type and volume of crime recorded in Scotland.

39. We would like to ask users whether this frequency of publication is necessary and well used, or if the frequency could be reduced. For example would a quarterly release of recorded crime statistics (similar to practice in England & Wales) be just as sufficient for their needs?

40. The latest edition of Recorded Crime in Scotland monthly statistics was published on 23rd September and can be found here [Recorded Crime in Scotland - gov.scot (www.gov.scot)](www.gov.scot)

Question Twelve

What (if any) use do you make of these monthly statistics? Would it cause you any issues if the frequency of their release was reduced (e.g. quarterly rather than monthly)?

User Guide

41. We recently published an updated User Guide which provides detailed information on the recorded crime bulletin. It is designed to be a useful reference guide with explanatory notes regarding the updates, issues, and classifications which are crucial to the production and presentation of crime statistics in Scotland.

Question Thirteen

Do you use the User Guide? Do you find it useful? Would you suggest any improvements?

Future developments

Individual level data

42. Currently the Scottish Government collects aggregated numbers of crimes and offences from Police Scotland, meaning that no information about victims, perpetrators or the individual crimes, offences and incidents are available. As discussed in paragraph 31, Scotland is one

of the few countries looked at that does not publish information on the demographic characteristics of victims or perpetrators.

43. Police Scotland are currently in the process of introducing a new system to record crime. This may provide an opportunity from the 2023-24 reporting year onwards, to produce new details on the characteristics of recorded crime, such as victim and perpetrator demographics (e.g. age, sex).

44. Once the new system is in place and we have more detailed information on what new analysis could be achievable, we will engage further with users. At this stage we would like to ask users what interest they may have in the production of more detailed statistics on the characteristics of crime in Scotland, using individual level data.

Question Fourteen

Would it be useful to produce more detailed analysis on the characteristics of recorded crime in Scotland, such as the demographics of those involved? What would you use this data for?

Levels of geography

45. We currently present data at Scotland level, as well as broken down to Local Authority level. With the introduction of the new Police Scotland IT system referred to above, it may be possible to produce data at lower geographical areas.

Question Fifteen

Does the current level of geography (Scotland and local authority level) meet your needs? If not, what other levels of geography would be helpful? What might that enable you to do, that you cannot currently do?

Open data & Interactive data exploring tool

46. Recorded crime data is currently made available in Excel tables which sit alongside the annual publication and some data is also on statistics.gov.scot:
   - Crime clear up rates and

   - Recorded crimes and offences (number and rate per 10,000 population)

Data is available for 1996-97 – 2019-20 (with 2020-21 to be added shortly), at Scotland and Local Authority level, and split by crime/offence group and by crime/offence group subcategory.

47.   We noted from the 2019 consultation that some users are supportive of the publication of non-personal data in an open format. Therefore, further consideration is being given to the way users can access data, such as providing data in an open data format, consistent with the wider Scottish Government Open Data Strategy.

48.   Another possible option is for accessing data through an interactive platform, such as the one the Scottish Crime and Justice Survey (SCJS) have recently introduced: SCJS interactive data exploring tool.

Question Sixteen

Do you use this data on statistics.gov.scot? Would you like to see more data available in this format? If so, what?

Question Seventeen

Would something similar to the Scottish Crime and Justice Survey Interactive data exploring tool be of interest? If so, what might you use it for?

Crime severity score

49.   A Crime Severity Score is designed to reflect the relative harm of offending, rather than how many crimes there are, so gives some crime/offence categories a higher weight than other ones, based on sentencing information.

50.   England and Wales currently publish a Crime Severity Score (as experimental statistics): Crime Severity Score (Experimental Statistics) - Office for National Statistics (ons.gov.uk). Under this measure of crime, murder is given for example the top weighting – 7,973 points per offence – while cannabis possession has the lowest of 2 points per offence.

Question Eighteen

Would similar analysis to the Crime Severity Score for England and Wales be of value for Scotland? What might you use it for? Is there anything it would enable you to do that you currently cannot do?

Part Three – Police Activity Statistics

51. This part of the consultation invites users to provide feedback on what other areas of policing in Scotland they would like to see the potential production of new statistics on, including how such data should be made available.

52. The Scottish Government produces several annual statistical bulletins which provide information on criminal activity dealt with by the police, in addition to the statistics on Recorded Crime in Scotland, discussed above. The publications, listed below, focus on providing users with detailed information on the nature of crimes and offences recorded by the police:

   - [National Statistics on Homicide in Scotland](#)
   - [Official Statistics on Drug seizures and offender characteristics](#)
   - [Official Statistics on Recorded crimes and offences involving firearms](#)

53. In addition to the above publications we also produced a social research report on the characteristics on hate aggravated crimes recorded by the police in Scotland in 2018-19[5]. A refresh of this analysis for the 2020-21 financial year is due to be published in 2022.

54. While these publications provide a valuable resource, they represent only one component (i.e. those involving the recording of at least one crime or offence) of the incidents police officers deal with on a daily basis.

55. In 2020-21, around one and half million incidents (1,506,805) were recorded on Police Scotland's command and control system[6]. Of these, not all will involve criminal behavior and result in a crime or offence being recorded, such as those relating to assisting the public or responding to requests for prevention activities. Over the same period,

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[5] [Characteristics of police recorded hate crime in Scotland: study - gov.scot (www.gov.scot)](#)

[6] [Police Scotland - Force Quarterly Bulletin](#)

the police recorded around 500,000 crimes and offences[7] (comprised of 246,511 crimes and 240,174 offences).

Other information on policing in Scotland

56. In addition to the publications listed above, the Scottish Government also produces the annual Official Statistics on [Domestic Abuse recorded by the police in Scotland](#). This includes information on the characteristics of domestic abuse incidents recorded by the police, including the proportion of these which resulted in a crime or offence being recorded. For example, in 2019-20, the police recorded 62,907 incidents of domestic abuse, of which 40% included the recording of at least one crime or offence.

57. Police Scotland publish management information on the number of incidents reported to the police as part of their [Quarterly Management Information Reports](#). These reports include a breakdown of volumes and rates per 10,000 population by the type of incident (including for example antisocial behaviour, transport-related and crime-related incidents). This information is available at national, divisional and council level. In addition, these publications include separate information on the number of missing person and domestic abuse related incidents recorded over the relevant period.

58. Alongside the above publication, Police Scotland produce a [Quarterly Performance Report](#). This publication includes management information detailing the number and type of calls received (i.e. 999 versus 101), number of persons arrested and numbers of Antisocial Behaviour Fixed Penalty notices issued.

Statistics on policing in other countries

59. Notwithstanding the differences in the definitions used for certain types of crimes and offences in different countries, alongside different Justice Systems and policing practices, statistics on criminal incidents, including police recorded crime, clear-up rates, criminal proceedings

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[7] Note that, depending on the situation, any single incident could result in the recording of one (or more) crime or offence. As such, the number of incidents and crimes and offences recorded are not directly comparable.

and survey-based measures of victimisation are broadly available internationally.

60. A selected sample of countries[8] has been considered to identify what data is available on policing activity beyond crime-related information. With the exception of statistics in New Zealand on police demand and activity, including information about calls for service, as well as volumes of police proactive activities – there was limited data available in other countries on this topic.

61. Whilst the sample considered is not exhaustive and targeted additional information may be available, such evidence appears to be generally limited, compared to the breadth of information available on crime-related work carried out by the police.

62. It is however widely acknowledged that policy activity is more complex than 'crime-fighting' solely. A study from the College of Policing estimated that non-crime related incidents account for 83% of all 'command and control' calls that come into call centre staff.

Potential for new indicators on policing activity

63. Scottish Government statisticians have been working closely with analysts in Police Scotland to examine what further information on police activity, beyond those publications described above, could be produced as Official Statistics. What follows is a discussion of the kinds of information that could be made available, along with some potential limitations.

Volume and type of incidents recorded by Police Scotland

64. When a member of the public contacts the police to report an incident (or if a police officer is witness to an incident) the information is logged on Police Scotland's System for Tasking and Operational Resource Management (STORM) – this is Police Scotland's national command and control system.

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[8] Australia, Canada, Denmark, England and Wales, Finland, Germany, Ireland, New Zealand, Northern Ireland, Norway, Sweden.

65. STORM was rolled out nationally in February 2018 and is largely used for resource allocation purposes. This system collects information about each incident reported to the police including when the incident was first reported.

66. This resource could be used to provide additional measures, beyond the National Statistics on Recorded Crime in Scotland, of the demand on police officers in terms of the volumes and types of incidents that they respond to and where resources were deployed.

67. Any future Official Statistics publication could provide information on types of incidents (beyond those resulting in the recording of crime or offence) such as antisocial behaviour and public welfare (including missing persons and concern for persons). To highlight the potential for exploring some of these specific incident types further, we have provided some additional information on missing persons incidents below.

68. However, what STORM does not include and therefore any statistics using it as a source would be unable to provide, is information about the person who reported the incident, or any potential victims or perpetrators of criminal activity.

Missing persons incidents dealt with by Police Scotland

69. When a person is reported missing in Scotland, Police Scotland log the incident within STORM and record any details about the missing person episode in their MisPer database.

70. Information from the MisPer database is available from April 2019. The database can provide additional details on the types of missing person episodes, for example characteristics of the missing person including health conditions, and the average time a person is missing.

Questions to consider

Question Nineteen

Would the production of new Official Statistics on incidents recorded by Police Scotland be something you would find of value? If so, what types of police recorded incidents would be of most interest? Do you have a preferred way you would like to access the information (i.e. a statistical bulletin, Excel tables or an interactive data exploring tool)?

Question Twenty

If this information on policing activity was made available, what would you use these statistics for?

Part Four – Any other feedback

<u>Question Twenty-One</u>

Is there anything else you would like to feedback on the production of Scotland's recorded crime statistics and the development of police activity statistics that hasn't been discussed in previous questions?

Annexes

Annex A – Current classification of police recorded crimes and offences

Table 1: Current classification - Crimes recorded by the police, Scotland, 2011-12 to 2020-21

											Number & Percentage	
											% change 19-20 to 2020-21	% change 11-12 to 2020-21
Crime group	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21		
Total Crimes	**314,188**	**273,053**	**270,397**	**256,350**	**246,243**	**238,921**	**244,504**	**246,480**	**246,516**	**246,511**	**0**	**-22**
Non-sexual crimes of violence	**9,484**	**7,468**	**6,686**	**6,272**	**6,737**	**7,164**	**7,251**	**8,008**	**9,316**	**8,972**	**-4**	**-5**
Homicide etc. (incl. causing death by driving)	121	91	106	105	81	105	98	102	121	100	-17	-17
Attempted murder & serious assault[4]	4,693	3,643	3,268	3,166	4,007	4,186	4,189	4,359	4,097	3,511	-14	-25
Robbery	2,244	1,832	1,499	1,497	1,327	1,435	1,556	1,807	1,738	1,673	-4	-25
Domestic Abuse (Scotland) Act	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,681	1,641	-2	
Other violence	2,426	1,902	1,813	1,504	1,322	1,438	1,408	1,740	1,679	2,047	22	-16
Sexual crimes[5]	**7,361**	**7,693**	**8,604**	**9,557**	**10,273**	**11,092**	**12,487**	**13,547**	**13,364**	**13,131**	**-2**	**78**
Rape & attempted rape	1,274	1,462	1,808	1,901	1,809	1,878	2,255	2,426	2,343	2,298	-2	80
Sexual assault	2,908	3,008	3,405	3,727	3,963	4,281	4,826	5,123	4,936	4,154	-16	43
Crimes associated with prostitution	567	534	490	374	247	303	136	235	101	56	-45	-90
Other sexual crimes	2,612	2,689	2,901	3,555	4,254	4,630	5,270	5,763	5,984	6,623	11	154
Crimes of dishonesty	**154,337**	**135,899**	**137,324**	**126,857**	**115,789**	**113,205**	**114,474**	**114,506**	**111,409**	**89,731**	**-19**	**-42**
Housebreaking[6]	24,222	21,515	22,272	20,607	17,637	16,299	15,130	13,777	12,903	9,706	-25	-60
Theft by opening a lockfast place (OLP)	3,529	3,239	3,218	2,879	2,193	1,940	2,027	1,684	1,728	1,207	-30	-66
Theft from a motor vehicle by OLP	8,988	6,159	6,189	5,816	4,684	3,888	3,734	3,532	2,982	2,108	-29	-77
Theft of a motor vehicle	7,060	5,731	5,976	5,423	5,028	5,216	5,024	4,950	5,002	4,311	-14	-39
Shoplifting	29,758	26,449	27,693	27,364	28,424	28,650	31,321	33,523	30,688	20,557	-33	-31
Other theft	66,681	58,704	58,794	53,539	46,419	45,173	44,437	42,880	41,421	32,017	-23	-52
Fraud	8,892	8,898	8,088	6,913	7,400	7,811	8,628	9,675	11,939	15,031	26	69
Other dishonesty	5,207	5,204	5,094	4,316	4,004	4,228	4,173	4,485	4,746	4,794	1	-8

Table 1 (Cont.): Current classification - Crimes recorded by the police, Scotland, 2011-12 to 2020-21[2]

Crime group	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	% change 19-20 to 2020-21	% change 11-12 to 2020-21
Fire-raising, vandalism etc.	**75,201**	**59,479**	**54,418**	**52,091**	**54,226**	**52,514**	**51,322**	**47,997**	**47,731**	**42,964**	**-10**	**-43**
Fire-raising	3,755	3,066	2,549	2,351	2,595	2,793	2,632	2,481	2,657	2,580	-3	-31
Vandalism etc.	71,446	56,413	51,869	49,740	51,631	49,721	48,690	45,516	45,074	40,384	-10	-43
Other crimes	**67,805**	**62,514**	**63,365**	**61,573**	**59,218**	**54,946**	**58,970**	**62,422**	**64,589**	**70,737**	**10**	**4**
Crimes against public justice	26,635	23,401	23,610	21,100	20,361	18,795	18,679	18,512	19,441	24,985	29	-6
Handling offensive weapons	-	-	-	-	-	-	7,733	8,896	9,644	10,184	6	n/r
Not used in other criminal activity	*5,631*	*4,015*	*3,795*	*3,289*	*3,111*	*3,271*	*3,570*	*4,216*	*4,484*	*4,524*	1	-20
Used in other criminal activity	-	-	-	-	-	-	*4,163*	*4,680*	*5,160*	*5,660*	10	-
Drugs	35,157	34,688	35,616	36,836	35,479	32,641	32,399	34,831	35,303	35,410	0	1
Other	382	410	344	348	267	239	159	183	201	158	-21	-59
Coronavirus restrictions	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**107**	**20,976**		**n/r**

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Table 2: Current classification - Offences recorded by the police, Scotland, 2011-12 to 2020-21

<div align="right">Number & Percentage</div>

Offence group	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	% change 19-20 to 2020-21	% change 11-12 to 2020-21
Total offences	**-**	**-**	**501,281**	**379,498**	**339,193**	**288,691**	**264,027**	**247,791**	**250,662**	**240,174**	**-4**	**-**
Miscellaneous offences	**210,135**	**203,063**	**207,190**	**183,513**	**168,896**	**150,523**	**137,012**	**130,686**	**128,755**	**124,120**	**-4**	**-41**
Common assault	69,253	60,955	60,357	58,178	58,596	57,861	58,335	57,915	57,833	52,052	-10	-25
Breach of the peace etc.	71,451	70,301	71,288	63,205	62,233	58,235	53,187	50,708	50,327	49,696	-1	-30
Drunkenness and other disorderly conduct	37,458	39,238	43,043	35,524	24,639	15,796	8,635	6,724	5,234	5,961	14	-84
Urinating etc.	13,602	15,420	15,361	11,216	7,700	4,505	3,044	2,466	2,153	894	-58	-93
Other	18,371	17,149	17,141	15,390	15,728	14,126	13,811	12,873	13,208	15,517	17	-16
Motor vehicle offences	**-**	**-**	**294,091**	**195,985**	**170,297**	**138,168**	**127,015**	**117,105**	**121,907**	**116,054**	**-5**	**-**
Dangerous and careless driving	9,853	10,530	11,524	10,773	12,057	11,693	10,722	10,989	11,246	11,771	5	19
Driving under the influence	7,445	6,433	6,079	5,218	5,458	5,917	5,863	5,847	6,594	8,097	23	9
Speeding	-	-	82,382	60,926	54,419	34,371	29,223	27,368	28,758	22,963	-20	-
Unlawful use of vehicle	-	-	57,779	40,855	41,470	45,978	43,871	36,848	39,022	43,309	11	-
Vehicle defect offences	-	-	20,923	15,593	13,070	8,385	7,049	7,107	7,346	6,839	-7	-
Seat belt offences	31,505	33,047	37,880	15,619	8,059	4,502	3,134	2,921	2,800	1,632	-42	-95
Mobile phone offences	29,110	30,875	35,764	17,978	10,085	6,709	3,173	2,895	2,450	1,629	-34	-94
Other	-	-	41,760	29,023	25,679	20,613	23,980	23,130	23,691	19,814	-16	-

Annex B – Alternative option A

Table 3: Alternative option A - Crimes recorded by the police, Scotland, 2011-12 to 2020-21

											Number & Percentage
											% change 19-20 to	% change 11-12 to
Crime group	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2020-21	2020-21
Total Crimes	**383,936**	**334,613**	**331,629**	**315,779**	**306,274**	**298,154**	**304,215**	**305,699**	**305,220**	**299,452**	**-2**	**-22**
Non-sexual crimes of violence	**79,281**	**69,090**	**68,017**	**65,786**	**66,806**	**66,397**	**66,962**	**67,227**	**68,020**	**61,913**	**-9**	**-22**
Murder and culpable homicide	93	66	63	63	60	65	59	59	66	61	-8	-34
Causing death by driving dangerously	28	25	43	42	21	40	39	43	55	39	-29	39
Serious assault and attempted murder	4,693	3,643	3,268	3,166	4,009	4,188	4,194	4,361	4,103	3,518	-14	-25
Common assault	69,253	60,955	60,357	58,178	58,596	57,861	58,335	57,915	57,833	52,052	-10	-25
Robbery	2,244	1,832	1,499	1,497	1,327	1,435	1,556	1,807	1,738	1,673	-4	-25
Domestic Abuse (Scotland) Act 2018	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,681	1,641	-2	-
Other non-sexual violence	2,970	2,569	2,787	2,840	2,793	2,808	2,779	3,042	2,544	2,929	15	-1
Sexual crimes	**7,361**	**7,693**	**8,604**	**9,557**	**10,273**	**11,092**	**12,487**	**13,547**	**13,364**	**13,131**	**-2**	**78**
Rape & attempted rape	1,274	1,462	1,808	1,901	1,809	1,878	2,255	2,426	2,343	2,298	-2	80
Sexual assault	2,908	3,008	3,405	3,727	3,963	4,281	4,826	5,123	4,936	4,154	-16	43
Causing to view sexual activity or images	1,176	950	1,009	1,350	1,507	1,624	1,752	2,005	1,992	2,101	5	79
Communicating indecently	358	526	605	906	1,180	1,166	1,222	1,373	1,470	1,543	5	331
Threatening to or disclosing an intimate image	-	-	-	-	-	-	421	596	655	780	19	-
Indecent photos of children	375	595	621	603	645	649	658	554	584	660	13	76
Crimes associated with prostitution	567	534	490	374	247	303	136	235	101	56	-45	-90
Other sexual crimes	703	618	666	696	922	1,191	1,217	1,235	1,283	1,539	20	119

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Table 3: Alternative option A (Cont.): Crimes recorded by the police, Scotland, 2011-12 to 2020-21

Number & Percentage

Crime group	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	% change 19-20 to 2020-21	% change 11-12 to 2020-21
Crimes of dishonesty	**154,337**	**135,899**	**137,324**	**126,857**	**115,789**	**113,205**	**114,474**	**114,506**	**111,409**	**89,731**	**-19**	**-42**
Housebreaking	24,222	21,515	22,272	20,607	17,637	16,299	15,130	13,777	12,903	9,706	-25	-60
Theft by opening lockfast places	3,529	3,239	3,218	2,879	2,193	1,940	2,027	1,684	1,728	1,207	-30	-66
Theft from a Motor Vehicle	8,988	6,159	6,189	5,816	4,684	3,888	3,734	3,532	2,982	2,108	-29	-77
Theft of motor vehicle	7,060	5,731	5,976	5,423	5,028	5,216	5,024	4,950	5,002	4,311	-14	-39
Shoplifting	29,758	26,449	27,693	27,364	28,424	28,650	31,321	33,523	30,688	20,557	-33	-31
Other theft	66,681	58,704	58,794	53,539	46,419	45,173	44,437	42,880	41,421	32,017	-23	-52
Fraud	8,892	8,898	8,088	6,913	7,400	7,811	8,628	9,675	11,939	15,031	26	69
Other dishonesty	5,207	5,204	5,094	4,316	4,004	4,228	4,173	4,485	4,746	4,794	1	-8
Damage and reckless behaviour	**75,201**	**59,479**	**54,418**	**52,091**	**54,226**	**52,514**	**51,322**	**47,997**	**47,731**	**42,964**	**-10**	**-43**
Vandalism	67,993	53,708	49,465	47,265	48,955	47,268	46,111	43,080	42,532	37,288	-12	-45
Reckless conduct	3,453	2,705	2,404	2,475	2,676	2,453	2,579	2,436	2,542	3,096	22	-10
Fire-raising	3,755	3,066	2,549	2,351	2,595	2,793	2,632	2,481	2,657	2,580	-3	-31
Crimes against society	**67,756**	**62,452**	**63,266**	**61,488**	**59,180**	**54,946**	**58,970**	**62,422**	**64,589**	**70,737**	**10**	**4**
Crimes against public justice	26,635	23,401	23,610	21,100	20,361	18,795	18,679	18,512	19,441	24,985	29	-6
Weapons possession (not used)	5,631	4,015	3,795	3,289	3,111	3,271	3,570	4,216	4,484	4,524	1	-20
Weapons possession (used)	-	-	-	-	-	-	4,163	4,680	5,160	5,660	10	-
Drugs - Supply	6,831	5,538	5,165	5,204	5,550	4,875	5,228	4,988	4,834	5,066	5	-26
Drugs - Possession	28,326	29,150	30,451	31,632	29,929	27,766	27,171	29,843	30,469	30,344	0	7
Other crimes against society	333	348	245	263	229	239	159	183	201	158	-21	-53
Coronavirus restrictions									107	20,976	-	-

Table 4: Alternative option A: Offences recorded by the police, Scotland, 2011-12 to 2020-21

Number & Percentage

Offence group	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	% change 19-20 to 2020-21	% change 11-12 to 2020-21
Total Offences	**-**	**-**	**440,049**	**320,069**	**279,162**	**229,458**	**204,316**	**188,572**	**191,958**	**187,233**	**-2**	**-**
Antisocial offences	**125,520**	**127,269**	**131,538**	**111,158**	**95,282**	**79,174**	**65,447**	**60,406**	**58,607**	**57,456**	**-2**	**-54**
Threatening and abusive behaviour	70,956	69,696	70,413	61,954	60,798	56,863	51,811	49,404	49,456	48,807	-1	-31
Racially aggravated conduct	3,486	2,903	2,712	2,456	2,132	1,993	1,921	1,744	1,737	1,782	3	-49
Drunkenness & other disorderly conduct	37,476	39,250	43,052	35,532	24,652	15,813	8,671	6,792	5,261	5,973	14	-84
Urinating etc.	13,602	15,420	15,361	11,216	7,700	4,505	3,044	2,466	2,153	894	-58	-93
Miscellaneous offences	**14,540**	**13,861**	**14,138**	**12,726**	**13,418**	**11,976**	**11,692**	**10,921**	**11,308**	**13,580**	**20**	**-7**
Community and public order offences	8,668	8,370	8,845	8,113	8,525	7,780	7,564	7,306	7,592	9,397	24	8
Environmental offences	1,338	1,450	1,832	1,469	1,489	1,224	732	564	555	847	53	-37
Licensing offences	1,913	1,670	1,318	1,124	1,089	1,065	1,519	1,265	1,201	930	-23	-51
Wildlife offences	1,759	1,564	1,444	1,394	1,528	1,321	1,297	1,181	1,233	1,470	19	-16
Other misc. offences	862	807	699	626	787	586	580	605	727	936	29	9
Road traffic offences	**-**	**-**	**294,373**	**196,185**	**170,462**	**138,308**	**127,177**	**117,245**	**122,043**	**116,197**	**-5**	**-**
Dangerous & careless driving	9,853	10,530	11,524	10,773	12,057	11,693	10,722	10,989	11,246	11,771	5	19
Driving under the influence	7,445	6,433	6,079	5,218	5,458	5,917	5,863	5,847	6,594	8,097	23	9
Speeding	-	-	82,382	60,926	54,419	34,371	29,223	27,368	28,758	22,963	-20	-
Unlawful use of motor vehicle	-	-	57,779	40,855	41,470	45,978	43,871	36,848	39,022	43,309	11	-
Vehicle defect offences	-	-	20,923	15,593	13,070	8,385	7,049	7,107	7,346	6,839	-7	-
Seat belt offences	31,505	33,047	37,880	15,619	8,059	4,502	3,134	2,921	2,800	1,632	-42	-95
Mobile phone offences	29,110	30,875	35,764	17,978	10,085	6,709	3,173	2,895	2,450	1,629	-34	-94
Other road traffic offences	-	-	42,042	29,223	25,844	20,753	24,142	23,270	23,827	19,957	-16	-

Annex C – Alternative option B

Table 5: Alternative option B: Crimes recorded by the police, Scotland, 2011-12 to 2020-21

											Number & Percentage	
											% change 19-20 to	% change 11-12 to
Crime group	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2020-21	2020-21
Total Crimes	**383,936**	**334,613**	**331,629**	**315,779**	**306,274**	**298,154**	**304,215**	**305,699**	**305,220**	**299,452**	**-2**	**-22**
Homicide, serious assault and attempted murder	**4,814**	**3,734**	**3,374**	**3,271**	**4,090**	**4,293**	**4,292**	**4,463**	**4,224**	**3,618**	**-14**	**-25**
Murder and culpable homicide	93	66	63	63	60	65	59	59	66	61	-8	-34
Causing death by driving dangerously	28	25	43	42	21	40	39	43	55	39	-29	39
Serious assault and attempted murder	4,693	3,643	3,268	3,166	4,009	4,188	4,194	4,361	4,103	3,518	-14	-25
Common assault	**69,253**	**60,955**	**60,357**	**58,178**	**58,596**	**57,861**	**58,335**	**57,915**	**57,833**	**52,052**	**-10**	**-25**
Common assault with injury											-	-
Common assault without injury											-	-
Robbery	**2,244**	**1,832**	**1,499**	**1,497**	**1,327**	**1,435**	**1,556**	**1,807**	**1,738**	**1,673**	**-4**	**-25**
Domestic Abuse (Scotland) Act 2018	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**1,681**	**1,641**	**-2**	**-**
Domestic Abuse (Scotland) Act 2018 - Female	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**	1,577	1,545	-2	-
Domestic Abuse (Scotland) Act 2018 - Male	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**	104	96	-8	-
Other non-sexual violence	**2,970**	**2,569**	**2,787**	**2,840**	**2,793**	**2,808**	**2,779**	**3,042**	**2,544**	**2,929**	**15**	**-1**
Threats and extortion	693	304	309	240	299	425	366	419	441	946	115	37
Stalking	495	605	875	1,251	1,435	1,372	1,376	1,304	871	889	2	80
Neglect and ill treatment	1,409	1,299	1,183	981	730	686	631	779	624	627	0	-56
Other non-sexual violence	373	361	420	368	329	325	406	540	608	467	-23	25

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Table 5: Alternative option B (Cont.): Crimes recorded by the police, Scotland, 2011-12 to 2020-21

Number & Percentage

Crime group	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	% change 19-20 to 2020-21	% change 11-12 to 2020-21
Sexual crimes with physical contact	**4,785**	**4,984**	**5,743**	**6,120**	**6,370**	**6,760**	**7,585**	**8,096**	**7,814**	**6,937**	**-11**	**45**
Rape & attempted rape	1,274	1,462	1,808	1,901	1,809	1,878	2,255	2,426	2,343	2,298	-2	80
Sexual assault	2,908	3,008	3,405	3,727	3,963	4,281	4,826	5,123	4,936	4,154	-16	43
Other sexual crimes with physical contact	603	514	530	492	598	601	504	547	535	485	-9	-20
Sexual crimes without physical contact	**2,576**	**2,709**	**2,861**	**3,437**	**3,903**	**4,332**	**4,902**	**5,451**	**5,550**	**6,194**	**12**	**140**
Causing to view sexual activity or images	1,176	950	1,009	1,350	1,507	1,624	1,752	2,005	1,992	2,101	5	79
Communicating indecently	358	526	605	906	1,180	1,166	1,222	1,373	1,470	1,543	5	331
Threatening to or disclosing an intimate image	-	-	-	-	-	-	421	596	655	780	19	-
Indecent photos of children	375	595	621	603	645	649	658	554	584	660	13	76
Crimes associated with prostitution	567	534	490	374	247	303	136	235	101	56	-45	-90
Other sexual crimes without physical contact	100	104	136	204	324	590	713	688	748	1,054	41	954
Crimes of dishonesty	**154,337**	**135,899**	**137,324**	**126,857**	**115,789**	**113,205**	**114,474**	**114,506**	**111,409**	**89,731**	**-19**	**-42**
Housebreaking	24,222	21,515	22,272	20,607	17,637	16,299	15,130	13,777	12,903	9,706	-25	-60
Theft by opening lockfast places	3,529	3,239	3,218	2,879	2,193	1,940	2,027	1,684	1,728	1,207	-30	-66
Theft from a Motor Vehicle	8,988	6,159	6,189	5,816	4,684	3,888	3,734	3,532	2,982	2,108	-29	-77
Theft of motor vehicle	7,060	5,731	5,976	5,423	5,028	5,216	5,024	4,950	5,002	4,311	-14	-39
Shoplifting	29,758	26,449	27,693	27,364	28,424	28,650	31,321	33,523	30,688	20,557	-33	-31
Other theft	66,681	58,704	58,794	53,539	46,419	45,173	44,437	42,880	41,421	32,017	-23	-52
Fraud	8,892	8,898	8,088	6,913	7,400	7,811	8,628	9,675	11,939	15,031	26	69
Other dishonesty	5,207	5,204	5,094	4,316	4,004	4,228	4,173	4,485	4,746	4,794	1	-8

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Table 5: Alternative option B (Cont.): Crimes recorded by the police, Scotland, 2011-12 to 2020-21[2]

Number & Percentage

Crime group	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	% change 19-20 to 2020-21	% change 11-12 to 2020-21
Damage and reckless behaviour	**75,201**	**59,479**	**54,418**	**52,091**	**54,226**	**52,514**	**51,322**	**47,997**	**47,731**	**42,964**	**-10**	**-43**
Vandalism	67,993	53,708	49,465	47,265	48,955	47,268	46,111	43,080	42,532	37,288	-12	-45
Reckless conduct	3,453	2,705	2,404	2,475	2,676	2,453	2,579	2,436	2,542	3,096	22	-10
Fire-raising	3,755	3,066	2,549	2,351	2,595	2,793	2,632	2,481	2,657	2,580	-3	-31
Possession of offensive weapons							**7,733**	**8,896**	**9,644**	**10,184**	**6**	**-**
Weapons possession (not used)	5,631	4,015	3,795	3,289	3,111	3,271	3,570	4,216	4,484	4,524	1	-20
Weapons possession (used)	-	-	-	-	-	-	4,163	4,680	5,160	5,660	10	-
Drug crimes	**35,157**	**34,688**	**35,616**	**36,836**	**35,479**	**32,641**	**32,399**	**34,831**	**35,303**	**35,410**	**0**	**1**
Drugs - Possession	28,326	29,150	30,451	31,632	29,929	27,766	27,171	29,843	30,469	30,344	0	7
Drugs - Supply	6,831	5,538	5,165	5,204	5,550	4,875	5,228	4,988	4,834	5,066	5	-26
Crimes against society	**26,968**	**23,749**	**23,855**	**21,363**	**20,590**	**19,034**	**18,838**	**18,695**	**19,642**	**25,143**	**28**	**-7**
Bail offences	11,226	9,127	9,587	8,864	8,299	7,478	7,506	7,237	8,150	11,467	41	2
Resisting arrest and obstructing officer	8,305	7,773	8,003	6,877	6,687	6,239	6,080	6,040	6,049	6,499	7	-22
Pervert course of justice	3,589	3,156	2,947	2,532	2,587	2,281	2,202	2,186	2,071	2,162	4	-40
Other crimes against society	3,848	3,693	3,318	3,090	3,017	3,036	3,050	3,232	3,372	5,015	49	30
Coronavirus restrictions	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	107	20,976	-	-

Table 6: Alternative option B: Offences recorded by the police, Scotland, 2011-12 to 2020-21

											Number & Percentage	
Offence group	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	% change 19-20 to 2020-21	% change 11-12 to 2020-21
Total Offences	**-**	**-**	**440,049**	**320,069**	**279,162**	**229,458**	**204,316**	**188,572**	**191,958**	**187,233**	**-2**	**-**
Antisocial offences	**125,520**	**127,269**	**131,538**	**111,158**	**95,282**	**79,174**	**65,447**	**60,406**	**58,607**	**57,456**	**-2**	**-54**
Threatening and abusive behaviour	70,956	69,696	70,413	61,954	60,798	56,863	51,811	49,404	49,456	48,807	-1	-31
Racially aggravated conduct	3,486	2,903	2,712	2,456	2,132	1,993	1,921	1,744	1,737	1,782	3	-49
Drunkenness & other disorderly conduct	37,476	39,250	43,052	35,532	24,652	15,813	8,671	6,792	5,261	5,973	14	-84
Urinating etc.	13,602	15,420	15,361	11,216	7,700	4,505	3,044	2,466	2,153	894	-58	-93
Miscellaneous offences	**14,540**	**13,861**	**14,138**	**12,726**	**13,418**	**11,976**	**11,692**	**10,921**	**11,308**	**13,580**	**20**	**-7**
Community and public order offences	8,668	8,370	8,845	8,113	8,525	7,780	7,564	7,306	7,592	9,397	24	8
Environmental offences	1,338	1,450	1,832	1,469	1,489	1,224	732	564	555	847	53	-37
Licensing offences	1,913	1,670	1,318	1,124	1,089	1,065	1,519	1,265	1,201	930	-23	-51
Wildlife offences	1,759	1,564	1,444	1,394	1,528	1,321	1,297	1,181	1,233	1,470	19	-16
Other misc. offences	862	807	699	626	787	586	580	605	727	936	29	9
Road traffic offences	**-**	**-**	**294,373**	**196,185**	**170,462**	**138,308**	**127,177**	**117,245**	**122,043**	**116,197**	**-5**	**-**
Dangerous & careless driving	9,853	10,530	11,524	10,773	12,057	11,693	10,722	10,989	11,246	11,771	5	19
Driving under the influence	7,445	6,433	6,079	5,218	5,458	5,917	5,863	5,847	6,594	8,097	23	9
Speeding	-	-	82,382	60,926	54,419	34,371	29,223	27,368	28,758	22,963	-20	-
Unlawful use of motor vehicle	-	-	57,779	40,855	41,470	45,978	43,871	36,848	39,022	43,309	11	-
Vehicle defect offences	-	-	20,923	15,593	13,070	8,385	7,049	7,107	7,346	6,839	-7	-
Seat belt offences	31,505	33,047	37,880	15,619	8,059	4,502	3,134	2,921	2,800	1,632	-42	-95
Mobile phone offences	29,110	30,875	35,764	17,978	10,085	6,709	3,173	2,895	2,450	1,629	-34	-94
Other road traffic offences	-	-	42,042	29,223	25,844	20,753	24,142	23,270	23,827	19,957	-16	-

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