FOI 202500483086 Annex B

From: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]
Sent: 22 August 2025 15:30
To: Cabinet Secretary for Justice and Home Affairs 2024
Cc: Minister for Victims and Community Safety 2024; First Minister; Minister for Children, Young
People and The Promise; Joe Griffin; DG Education & Justice; Director of Justice; Director of Safer
Communities; Chief Statistician; Head of Justice Analytical Services; Mo Rooney; Penelope Cooper;
Penelope Curtis; Anna Donald; Alex Doig; Quentin Fisher; [redacted S.38(1)(b)]
Jeanette Campbell; Emilie-Louise Purdie; PS/Lord Advocate; PS/Solicitor General
Subject: RE: Accredited Official Statistics: Recorded Crime in Scotland, year ending June 2025 -
RESTRICTED until 9.30 am Tuesday 26 August 2025
Attachments: Recorded Crime - year ending June 2025 - [REDACTED].docx

Cabinet Secretary for Justice and Home Affairs

Copy: As above

ACCREDITED OFFICIAL STATISTICS RESTRICTED BY STATUTORY ORDER
Statistical Bulletin: Recorded Crime in Scotland, year ending June 2025

Please find attached [REDACTED] note as requested for Tuesday s Cabinet.

Kind regards, [redacted S.38(1)(b)]
From: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]
Sent: 22 August 2025 11:53
To: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]
Cc: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]
Subject: RE: Accredited Official Statistics: Recorded Crime in Scotland, year ending June 2025 - RESTRICTED until 9.30 am Tuesday 26 August 2025

Hi [redacted S.38(1)(b)],

I've added in lines for Child Sexual Abuse interests against the reported crime stats for indecent photos of children.

Regards,

[redacted S.38(1)(b)]
Senior Policy Adviser
Child Protection Unit, Protection and Justice Division
Children and Families Directorate, Scottish Government

From: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]
Sent: 21 August 2025 15:24
To: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]

Cc: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]
Subject: RE: Accredited Official Statistics: Recorded Crime in Scotland, year ending June 2025 - RESTRICTED until 9.30 am Tuesday 26 August 2025

Hi [redacted S.38(1)(b)]

Please see the attached doc with our sections updated.

Thanks,

[redacted S.38(1)(b)]
From: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]
Sent: 21 August 2025 13:41
To: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]
Cc: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]
Subject: RE: Accredited Official Statistics: Recorded Crime in Scotland, year ending June 2025 - RESTRICTED until 9.30 am Tuesday 26 August 2025

Thanks [redacted S.38(1)(b)]

I've just realised we don't explicitly publish weapons in schools data in this publication, so I'll probably just take that section out.

If anything comes up post publication I'll loop [redacted S.38(1)(b)] in though.

[redacted S.38(1)(b)]

[redacted S.38(1)(b)]| Statistician
The Scottish Government
Police Activity and Recorded Crime Statistics
Safer Communities Analytical Unit
Justice Analytical Services

2-G Dockside, Victoria Quay, Leith, Edinburgh, EH6 6QQ
My working days are: Monday 8.30am – 4.30pm & Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 10am – 2.30pm

To be kept informed of justice statistical releases and any upcoming consultations please register with our ScotStat service.

From: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]
Sent: 21 August 2025 12:57
To: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]
Cc: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]
[redacted S.38(1)(b)]
I don't work on Fridays so have amended the draft content for violence including knife crime. See attached. There are policy aspects for schools policy colleagues to double check but unsure if they have pre release access.
[redacted S.38(1)(b)]
Violence Reduction & Firearms/Air Weapons Licensing

Community Safety Policy and Prevention Unit
Safer Communities Directorate | Scottish Government
Email: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]| ViolenceReduction@gov.scot
Tel: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]
Area 1W, St Andrews House, Edinburgh, EH1 3DG

My working pattern is Monday to Thursday

From: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]
Sent: 21 August 2025 11:23
To: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]
Cc: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]
Subject: RE: Accredited Official Statistics: Recorded Crime in Scotland, year ending June 2025 - RESTRICTED until 9.30 am Tuesday 26 August 2025

Hi All,

As you will have seen, Cab Sec has requested a [redacted] regarding these stats.

Please see attached draft, I've highlighted in yellow policy lines which I would be grateful if you could check and make sure they are up to date.

If you could get back to us by midday tomorrow that would be much appreciated. Please note I don't work a Friday, so if you could ensure [redacted S.38(1)(b)] is copied in that will ensure it's picked up.

Thanks very much and any questions, just let me know (before 2.30 today).

[redacted S.38(1)(b)]

[redacted S.38(1)(b)]| Statistician

The Scottish Government

Police Activity and Recorded Crime Statistics
Safer Communities Analytical Unit
Justice Analytical Services

2-G Dockside, Victoria Quay, Leith, Edinburgh, EH6 6QQ

My working days are: Monday 8.30am – 4.30pm & Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 10am – 2.30pm

To be kept informed of justice statistical releases and any upcoming consultations please register with our ScotStat service.

From: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]

> On Behalf Of Cabinet Secretary for Justice and Home Affairs 2024
Sent: 21 August 2025 07:27
To: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]; Cabinet Secretary for Justice and Home Affairs 2024 <CabSecforJHA@gov.scot>
Cc: Minister for Victims and Community Safety 2024 <MinisterforVCS@gov.scot>; First Minister <FirstMinister@gov.scot>; Minister for Children, Young People and The Promise <MinisterCYPTP@gov.scot>; Joe Griffin <Joe.Griffin@gov.scot>; DG Education & Justice <dgej@gov.scot>; Director of Justice <DirectorofJustice@gov.scot>; Director of Safer Communities <DirectorofSaferCommunities@gov.scot>; Chief Statistician <ChiefStatistician@gov.scot>; Head of Justice Analytical Services <headofjas@gov.scot>; Mo Rooney <Maureen.Rooney@gov.scot>; Penelope Cooper <Penelope.Cooper@gov.scot>; Penelope Curtis <Penelope.Curtis@gov.scot>; Anna Donald <Anna.Donald@gov.scot>; Alex Doig <Alex.Doig@gov.scot>; Quentin Fisher <Quentin.Fisher@gov.scot>; [redacted S.38(1)(b)] Jeanette Campbell <Jeanette.Campbell@gov.scot>; Emilie-Louise Purdie <Emilie-Louise.Purdie@gov.scot>; PS/Lord Advocate <pslordadvocate@copfs.gov.uk>; PS/Solicitor General <pssolicitorgeneral@copfs.gov.uk>
Subject: RE: Accredited Official Statistics: Recorded Crime in Scotland, year ending June 2025 - RESTRICTED until 9.30 am Tuesday 26 August 2025

Hi [redacted S.38(1)(b)]

Many thanks, Ms Constance has noted and indicated that she would wish a [redacted] for Tuesday's Cabinet.

[redacted S.38(1)(b)]Private Secretary to Cabinet Secretary for Justice and Home Affairs : Angela Constance MSP
M: 07920 595434 | E: CabSecforJHA@gov.scot
The Scottish Government | St Andrew's House, Regent Road, EDINBURGH EH1 3DG

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Scottish Ministers, Special advisers and the Permanent Secretary are covered by the terms of the Lobbying (Scotland) Act 2016. See www.lobbying.scot
From: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]
Sent: 21 August 2025 09:13
To: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]
Cc: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]
Subject: RE: Accredited Official Statistics: Recorded Crime in Scotland, year ending June 2025 -
RESTRICTED until 9.30 am Tuesday 26 August 2025

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged
Expires on: 20 October 2025 00:00

Thanks for the update – saw CabSec has requested so we'll contribute as required.

Could you also update the distribution list for these stats to reflect team changes:
* Remove: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]
* Add: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]
Thanks
[redacted S.38(1)(b)]

From: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]
Sent: 20 August 2025 13:59
To: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]
Subject: RE: Accredited Official Statistics: Recorded Crime in Scotland, year ending June 2025 -
RESTRICTED until 9.30 am Tuesday 26 August 2025

Hi [redacted S.38(1)(b)]

Not as yet. I'm going to draft a [REDACTED] note this afternoon and will be in touch for
input into that.

I'm hoping comms will lead any lines needed.

[redacted S.38(1)(b)]

[redacted S.38(1)(b)]|Statistician
The Scottish Government
Police Activity and Recorded Crime Statistics
Safer Communities Analytical Unit
Justice Analytical Services

2-G Dockside, Victoria Quay, Leith, Edinburgh, EH6 6QQ
My working days are: Monday 8.30am – 4.30pm & Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 10am – 2.30pm

To be kept informed of justice statistical releases and any upcoming consultations please register with our
ScotStat service.

From: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]
Sent: 20 August 2025 13:20
To: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]
Subject: RE: Accredited Official Statistics: Recorded Crime in Scotland, year ending June 2025 -
RESTRICTED until 9.30 am Tuesday 26 August 2025

Hi [redacted S.38(1)(b)]

Thanks for sight of the sub and associated papers/ briefings. Just to check had there

been a request to review or feed into these? Just conscious there are a number of stats
in here related to sexual crimes against children (e.g. indecent images etc) that might
generate some headlines so would want to be cited on them/ briefing etc.

Just checking I didn't miss a commission!

Thanks
[redacted S.38(1)(b)]
From: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]
Sent: 20 August 2025 13:14
To: Cabinet Secretary for Justice and Home Affairs 2024
Cc: Minister for Victims and Community Safety 2024; First Minister; 'Minister for Children, Young
People & Keeping the Promise'; Joe Griffin; DG Education & Justice; Director of Justice; Director of Safer
Communities; Chief Statistician; Head of Justice Analytical Services; Mo Rooney; Penelope Cooper;
Penelope Curtis; Anna Donald; Alex Doig; Quentin Fisher; [redacted S.38(1)(b)]
Jeanette Campbell; Emilie-Louise Purdie; 'PS/Lord Advocate'; 'PS/Solicitor General'
Subject: Accredited Official Statistics: Recorded Crime in Scotland, year ending June 2025 -
RESTRICTED until 9.30 am Tuesday 26 August 2025
Attachments: Recorded Crime - year ending June 2025 - Bulletin.pdf; Recorded Crime - year ending
June 2025 - Bulletin - Statistical news release.docx; Recorded Crime - year ending June 2025 - bulletin -
final tables.xlsx; Recorded Crime - year ending June 2025 - Bulletin - ministerial submission.docx

Cabinet Secretary for Justice and Home Affairs

Copy: As above

ACCREDITED OFFICIAL STATISTICS RESTRICTED BY STATUTORY ORDER
Statistical Bulletin: Recorded Crime in Scotland, year ending June 2025

Please find attached a submission on the publication of Accredited Official Statistics on
Recorded Crime in Scotland, year ending December 2024. This is being sent under the
Pre-release Access to Official Statistics (Scotland) Order 2008.

The bulletin is to be published at 9.30 am on Tuesday 26 August 2025. Please treat the attached statistics and any indication of the results as restricted until their public release. If you think you need to discuss or share these statistics with anyone not on the
circulation list then please contact me. These statistics should only be forwarded on to

named Scottish Government officials where this is required for the preparation of briefing and/or Ministerial comment, and where prior approval for such onward access
has been sought from myself. Any accidental or wrongful release should be reported to
me immediately. Wrongful release includes indications of the content or the trend of the
figures, including descriptions such as 'favourable' or 'unfavourable'.

Communication and Special Adviser colleagues will be in touch separately to discuss reactive media lines.

To confirm, this email contains the following attachments:
* Ministerial Submission on Recorded Crime year ending June 2025 Accredited Official Statistics
* Statistical News Release
* Statistics Bulletin: Recorded Crime in Scotland, year ending June 2025
* Supporting data tables: Recorded Crime in Scotland, year ending June 2025

A [REDACTED] brief will be provided, if requested for Cabinet on Tuesday 26 August (the
day these statistics are published).

Kind Regards,

[redacted S.38(1)(b)]

[redacted S.38(1)(b)]| Statistician
The Scottish Government
Police Activity and Recorded Crime Statistics
Safer Communities Analytical Unit
Justice Analytical Services

2-G Dockside, Victoria Quay, Leith, Edinburgh, EH6 6QQ
My working days are: Monday 8.30am 4.30pm & Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 10am 2.30pm

To be kept informed of justice statistical releases and any upcoming consultations please register with our
ScotStat service.

From: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]on behalf of First Minister
Sent: 27 August 2025 10:32
To: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]Cabinet Secretary for Justice and Home Affairs 2024
Cc: Minister for Victims and Community Safety 2024; First Minister; zzzMinister for Children, Young
People & Keeping the Promise; Joe Griffin; DG Education & Justice; Director of Justice; Director of Safer

Communities; Chief Statistician; Head of Justice Analytical Services; Mo Rooney; Penelope Cooper;
Penelope Curtis; Anna Donald; Alex Doig; Quentin Fisher; [redacted S.38(1)(b)]Jeanette Campbell; Emilie-Louise Purdie; PS/Lord Advocate; PS/Solicitor General
Subject: RE: Accredited Official Statistics: Recorded Crime in Scotland, year ending June 2025 -
RESTRICTED until 9.30 am Tuesday 26 August 2025

Good morning,

FM has noted and has noted the comms lines that have been cleared by Ms Constance.

Many thanks,
[redacted S.38(1)(b)]
[redacted S.38(1)(b)]
Deputy Private Secretary to the First Minister
Office of the First Minister
5th Floor | St Andrews House | Regent Road | Edinburgh | EH1 3DG
M: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]

The First Minister s box closes at 2pm, Monday to Friday. Further details, including preferences, can be found here.

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Scottish Ministers, Special advisers and the Permanent Secretary are covered by the terms of the Lobbying (Scotland) Act
2016. See www.lobbying.scot

From: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]
Sent: 22 August 2025 16:59
To: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]
Cc: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]
Subject: MEDIA LINES - immediate - Accredited Official Statistics: Recorded Crime in Scotland,
year ending June 2025 - RESTRICTED until 9.30 am Tuesday 26 August 2025

Hello [redacted S.38(1)(b)]
Statistical Bulletin: Recorded Crime in Scotland, year ending June 2025

I have copied below draft reactive media lines – in the name of the Justice Secretary -
ahead of next week’s recorded crime stats.

Media likely to focus on spike in sexual crimes and domestic abuse + shoplifting/retail
crime. I have drafted general lines and also specific lines that cover those area.

The section highlighted in red was cleared by Minster for Equalities in response to a domestic abuse media query that came to Comms Social Justice this afternoon.

I plan to send lines for Ministerial clearance (Cab Sec on leave) at 12noon on Monday.

Grateful for comments ASAP

[redacted S.38(1)(b)]
[redacted S.38(1)(b)]
News|Senior Media Manger|Communications Justice and Home Affairs Team
The Scottish Government, St Andrew's House, Edinburgh
Mobile: [redacted S.38(1)(b)] | Portfolio Media inquiries: 0300 244 9023
www.gov.scot/news

General lines

Justice Secretary Angela Constance said:

“Scotland continues to be safe place to live with reported crime falling by more than half
since 1991. This comes on the back of the recent flagship Scottish Crime and Justice
Survey which also showed people feel safer in their communities.
“Violent crime is down significantly in the past 20 years, with serious assaults and homicide levels at near record lows. [OUT OF SCOPE]
[OUT OF SCOPE]
Sexual violence
“I recognise that multiple factors will lie behind increases in sexual crime. [OUT OF SCOPE]
Domestic violence
“These statistics are a stark reminder of the unacceptable levels of domestic abuse that
occur in Scotland. [OUT OF SCOPE]
Background
[OUT OF SCOPE]
ENDS

“ISSUE: 26 August: Publication of Recorded Crime in Scotland, year ending June 2025
Total recorded crime shows a slight increase (up 1%) compared to the previous year, and remains below the position immediately prior to the pandemic (2019-20) and down 51% from its peak in 1991.
Compared to year ending June 2024:
Slight increase (up 1%) in Non-sexual violence. Driven by a 1% increase in Common assault and a 26% increase in Domestic Abuse (Scotland) Act crimes. This was

partly offset by decreases in other crime types, including a 10% decrease in serious assault and attempted murder
5% increase in Sexual crimes. Primarily driven by 15% increase in Rape and attempted rape but there were also significant increases in Indecent photos of children (up 27%) and Sexual assault (up 3%).
Very little change (up less than 1%) in Crimes of dishonesty. The recording of these crimes is back to a similar level seen immediately prior to the pandemic (in 2019-20) and down 74% from the peak in 1991.
Shoplifting continued to increase (up 17%) and has now more than doubled (up 124%) compared to 5 years ago (albeit part of that increase will reflect the closure of many shops during Covid lockdowns in 2020) it is at the highest level since comparable records began in 1971.
5% increase in weapons crimes."

"Crime in Scotland has fallen significantly under this administration.
Recorded Crime
Scotland is a safer place since this government took office. Recorded crime remains below the position immediately prior to the pandemic (2019-20), and is down 39% since 2006-07.
We have seen a 22% reduction in non-sexual violent crime since 2006-07, though agree there is more we must and will do to tackle this unacceptable behaviour."

"SEXUAL CRIME
The Scottish Government recognises that multiple factors lie behind the increase in sexual offences from the previous year
This includes a greater willingness of victims to come forward, more historical reporting, and the impact of new legislation."

In-scope extracts from briefing document to Scottish Cabinet:

"Topic Heading: Recorded Crime in Scotland Statistics, year ending June 2025

Minister: Cabinet Secretary for Justice and Home Affairs"

"The Scottish Government today (at 9:30am) published Accredited Official Statistics on 'Recorded Crime in Scotland, year ending June 2025' (currently subject to pre-release access procedures).

Cabinet will wish to be aware that these statistics traditionally receive high media attention (including on violent and sexual crime), and include data by local authority area. Further detail will be provided in Cabinet."

"Today's statistics show a 1% increase in recorded crime over the year ending June 2025. Recorded crime remains below the position immediately prior to the pandemic (2019-20) and is down 51% from its peak in 1991.

Although total recorded crime remained stable, there was greater variation by type of crime - with falls in Other theft (down 8%), vandalism (down 5%) and housebreaking (down 19%). These were off-set by a further significant increase in shoplifting (up 17% to a new record high).

[OUT OF SCOPE]

Elsewhere, Non-sexual crimes of violence were 1% higher than the previous year. Encouragingly, Serious assault & attempted murder fell 10% to lowest level since 1977. Crimes under the Domestic Abuse (Scotland) Act 2018 increased by 26% (573 crimes).

These statistics are a stark reminder of the unacceptable levels of domestic abuse that occur in Scotland. [OUT OF SCOPE]

Sexual crimes increased by 5% over the year ending June 2025, this was driven by a 15% increase in Rape and attempted rape. We recognise multiple factors lie behind increases in sexual crime. [OUT OF SCOPE]

Indecent photos of children increased 27% compared to the previous year. [OUT OF SCOPE]

Weapons possession increased by 5% (or 582 crimes) over the last year. This included a 13% (or 818 crimes) increase in crimes of handling offensive weapons used in other criminal activity, with these crimes now at the highest level since they were introduced in April 2017."

"Background Information

[OUT OF SCOPE]

Indecent Photos of Children
There has been a substantive increase of indecent photos of children - 27% compared to the previous year (from 707 to 898 crimes).

[OUT OF SCOPE]

Sexual Crimes
We recognise that multiple factors will lie behind increases in sexual crime."

"

Link	The publication can be found here after 9:30am on Tuesday 26 August Recorded Crime in Scotland: year ending June 2025

"

From: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]
Justice Analytical Services
20 August 2025

Cabinet Secretary for Justice and Home Affairs

RECORDED CRIME IN SCOTLAND, YEAR ENDING JUNE 2025

Purpose

To provide you with pre-release access to the ‘Recorded Crime in Scotland, year ending June 2025’ Accredited Official Statistics publication.

Priority

Routine – these statistics will be published at 9:30 am on Tuesday 26 August 2025. Please treat the attached statistics and any indication of their results as restricted until their public release.

Background

This publication provides key statistics which inform The Vision for Justice in Scotland, and is the primary source of information on the volume of criminal activity with which the police are faced. The statistics cover recorded crimes up to year ending June 2025, and the previous four years.

The annual 2024-25 (or year ending March 2025) Accredited Official Statistics bulletin provides additional and more detailed commentary on the recording of crimes and offences, including time series analysis over the longer term (back to 1971), statistics on cyber-crimes and clear-up rates.

Headline Statistics

It should be noted that these statistics do not relate to all crime committed in Scotland, as not all crime is reported to the police.

In the year ending June 2025:

The police in Scotland recorded 303,343 crimes. This was 1% higher than the 300,078 crimes recorded in the year ending June 2024, and 1% higher than the 300,747 crimes recorded in the year ending June 2021.

Whilst there was a 1% increase in recorded crime between the year ending June 2024 and year ending June 2025, there was greater variation by type of crime. By volume the greatest falls were in Other theft (down 8% or 2,790 crimes) and vandalism (down 5% or 1,707 crimes), however this was off-set by another significant increase in shoplifting (up 17% or 6,827 crimes). If we were to exclude crimes of shoplifting, recorded crime would decrease, by 1%.
The recording of crime remains below the position immediately prior to the pandemic (2019-20) and down 51% from its peak in 1991.

Non-sexual crimes of violence were 1% higher compared to the year ending June 2024 (increasing from 71,394 to 71,915 crimes), and 12% higher compared to the year ending June 2021 (increasing from 64,080 to 71,915 crimes).

Sexual crimes were 5% higher compared to the year ending June 2024 (increasing from 14,417 to 15,129 crimes), and 9% higher compared to the year ending June 2021 (increasing from 13,939 to 15,129 crimes).

Crimes of dishonesty were less than 1% higher compared to the year ending June 2024 (increasing from 112,384 to 112,421 crimes), and 26% higher compared to the year ending June 2021 (increasing from 89,259 to 112,421 crimes).

Damage and reckless behaviour was 3% lower compared to the year ending June 2024 (decreasing from 40,285 to 38,925 crimes), and 12% lower compared to the year ending June 2021 (decreasing from 44,293 to 38,925 crimes).

Crimes against society were 5% higher compared to the year ending June 2024 (increasing from 61,643 to 64,953 crimes), but 6% lower compared to the year ending June 2021 (decreasing from 69,030 to 64,953 crimes).

The number of offences recorded by the police in Scotland in the year ending June 2025 was 184,331. This is 4% higher than the 177,849 offences recorded in the year ending June 2024, but 3% lower than the 189,677 offences recorded in the year ending June 2021.

Statistics in Context

Total Recorded crime

This latest year shows a 1% increase in levels of recorded crime. As noted in paragraph 7, this was driven by an increase in Shoplifting.

Increase in Non-sexual crimes of violence

In year ending June 2025, Non-sexual crimes of violence increased by 1% (566 crimes) compared to the previous year. The biggest drivers of this increase were a 1% (694 crimes) increase in Common assault and a 26% (573 crimes) increase in crimes under Domestic Abuse (Scotland) Act. However, these increases were partially offset by a 10% (327 crimes) decrease in serious assault and attempted murder, a 5% (233 crimes) decrease in other non-sexual violence and a 7% (135 crimes) decrease in Robbery.

Sexual crimes

The total number of Sexual crimes has increased by 5% (or 712 crimes) between year ending June 2024 and 2025. This has been primarily driven by a 15% (395 crimes) increase in crimes of rape and attempted rape. There were also significant increases in Indecent photos of children (up 27% from 707 to 898) and Sexual assault (up 3% from 4,959 to 5,108). Over the latest equivalent five year period, there has been a 9% increase in Sexual crimes from 13,939 in the year ending June 2021 to 15,129 in the year ending June 2025.

Crimes of dishonesty

As noted above, there has been a 8% decrease in Other theft between years ending June 2024 and 2025. Over this time there was also a 19% fall (or 1,677 crimes) in housebreaking and a 8% fall (or 1,284 crimes) in Fraud. In contrast, Shoplifting continued to increase, up by 17%, from 40,554 to 47,381 crimes. Shoplifting has now more than doubled (up 124%) compared to 5 years ago (albeit part of that increase will reflect the closure of many shops during Covid lockdowns in 2020) and is at the highest level since comparable records began in 1971.

Increase in weapons crimes

There has been a 5% increase in weapons crimes from 10,854 in year ending June 2024 to 11,436 in year ending June 2025. Of these crimes of handling offensive weapons, 6,948 were used in other criminal activity (up 13% since year ending June 2024) and 4,488 were not used in other criminal activity (down 5% since year ending June 2024). Crimes of handling offensive weapons used in other criminal activity are now at the highest level since these crime codes were introduced in April 2017.

[OUT OF SCOPE]

Glasgow City (816 per 10,000) and Dundee City (815 per 10,000 population) had the highest crime rates in the year ending June 2025.

Policy Lines / Comms Actions

Comms colleagues will work with the relevant policy teams to produce reactive lines and will deal with any more specific media queries as required. As standard, a statistical news release will also be issued.

Officials are happy to discuss any of these statistics further if required.

Conclusion

The Cabinet Secretary is invited to note that the statistical bulletin “Recorded Crime in Scotland, year ending June 2025” will be published at 9.30 am on Tuesday 26 August 2025.

[redacted S.38(1)(b)]
Justice Analytical Services