



OFFICIAL: Sensitive

Our Ref: 26-2467
Your Ref: 23091139
Telephone: 8207 5555



Re: Freedom of Information Act application

In reference to your application made pursuant to the *Freedom of Information Act 1991* (FOI Act), access was sought to:

“Hi, I would like access to data regarding civil claims made against South Australian police force (police) per financial year. Specifically: 1 - The total cost of civil claims commenced in any year against police in the years: 2025/24 2024/23 2023/22 2022/21 2021/20 2020/19 2019/18 2018/17 2017/16 2. The total number of civil claims against police commenced in the years: 2025/24 2024/23 2023/22 2022/21 2021/20 2020/19 2019/18 2018/17 2017/16”

South Australia Police (SAPOL) provide the below information in response to your request and agree to **release the information in full**.

Table 1 Civil claims paid by SAPOL (Non accident related)

Financial Year	Total Civil Claims Received	Total costs paid by SAPOL (GST Exclusive)
2016/17	31	\$704,000
2017/18	16	\$154,000
2018/19	26	\$135,000
2019/20	24	\$291,000
2020/21	35	\$618,000
2021/22	16	\$303,000
2022/23	9	\$236,000
2023/24	28	\$383,000
2024/25	41	\$208,000



Please note:

- 'Civil claims' has been taken to include claims for compensation communicated to SAPOL regardless of whether court proceedings were initiated.
- The total costs data reflects only the costs paid out by SAPOL. It does not represent claims settled by SAPOL's insurer
- The total cost data provided does not include the cost of any legal fees incurred in responding to a claim.

Table 2 Motor vehicle accident claims paid by SAPOL

Financial Year	Total Civil Claims Received	Total costs paid by SAPOL (GST Exclusive)
2016/17	41	\$119,540
2017/18	47	\$108,072
2018/19	36	\$126,977
2019/20	33	\$92,897
2020/21	41	\$161,553
2021/22	27	\$95,653
2022/23	13	\$57,730
2023/24	32	\$188,837
2024/25	49	\$212,990

Disclosure Log

In accordance with the requirements of Premier and Cabinet Circular PC045, details of your FOI application, and the documents to which you are given access will be published on the SAPOL website Disclosure Log. A copy of PC045 can be found at: https://www.dpc.sa.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0019/20818/PC045-Disclosure-Logs.pdf.

If you disagree with publication, please advise the undersigned in writing by 21 May 2026.

Yours sincerely



Senior Sergeant Christian Ainley
Freedom of Information Unit
(Accredited Freedom of Information Officer)

25 March 2026