| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 23-1969  Responded to: xx x 2023 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

**Can you tell me how many police officer applicants have been rejected due to use of antidepressants – over the past five years.**

**If that is too long a time-frame can you provide the answer for as many years as is possible.**

Having considered your request in terms of the above Act, I can advise you that Police Scotland does not hold the information requested, and as such, Section 17 of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 has been applied.

All police recruits are subjected to a medical assessment conducted by our medical provider Optima Health. Optima Health apply a set of standards produced and owned by the Home Office and thereafter after the medical assessment Police Scotland are updated with the following -

Passed Fit

Deferred

A recruit who is deferred for taking antidepressants, will only be recorded as ‘Psychological’ as the reason for the deferral, however, as will many other conditions who are also being deferred. Therefore the information requested is not recorded and is not known to Police Scotland**.**

If you require any further assistance please contact us quoting the reference above.

You can request a review of this response within the next 40 working days by [email](mailto:foi@scotland.police.uk) or by letter (Information Management - FOI, Police Scotland, Clyde Gateway, 2 French Street, Dalmarnock, G40 4EH). Requests must include the reason for your dissatisfaction.

If you remain dissatisfied following our review response, you can appeal to the Office of the Scottish Information Commissioner (OSIC) within 6 months - [online](http://www.itspublicknowledge.info/Appeal), by [email](mailto:enquiries@itspublicknowledge.info) or by letter (OSIC, Kinburn Castle, Doubledykes Road, St Andrews, KY16 9DS).

Following an OSIC appeal, you can appeal to the Court of Session on a point of law only.

This response will be added to our [Disclosure Log](http://www.scotland.police.uk/access-to-information/freedom-of-information/disclosure-log) in seven days' time.

Every effort has been taken to ensure our response is as accessible as possible. If you require this response to be provided in an alternative format, please let us know.