| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 23-1771  Responded to: 27th July 2023 |
| --- | --- |

Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

**In light of uk country wide police suspensions , sackings etc i have taken an interest in how Scotland is performing as you are aware uk wide police lost all respect during covid policing for the government and not the people , it could be that respect is at an all time low .so i have listed a few questions below .**

**1 currently how many police officers and staff in Scotland.**

In terms of section 16 of the Act, I am refusing to provide you with the information sought on the basis that it is publicly available:

[Police Scotland Officer & Staff Numbers - Police Scotland](https://www.scotland.police.uk/about-us/how-we-do-it/police-scotland-officer-numbers/)

Section 16 requires Police Scotland to:

(a) state that it holds the information,   
(b) state that it is claiming an exemption,   
(c) specify the exemption in question and   
(d) state, if that would not be otherwise apparent, why the exemption applies.

I can confirm that the information requested is held by Police Scotland and the exemption that I consider to be applicable is set out at section 25(1) of the Act:

“Information which the applicant can reasonably obtain other than by requesting it under Section 1(1) is exempt information”

**2 how many officers/ staff are or have been suspended. In the last 5 years**

I can advise you that 62 police officers and 15 members of staff are currently suspended (as at 11 July 2023).

137 police officers and 34 members of staff have been suspended in the last 5 years.

Those figures are based on the commencement of the suspension being between 01/04/2018 and 31/03/2023.

The figures do not include any individual whose suspension start date precedes that period but they served a suspension that continued into that period.

You may be interested in the following document:

[Suspension from Duty SOP](https://www.scotland.police.uk/spa-media/3mbmetbo/suspension-from-duty-sop.pdf)

[Disciplinary SOP](https://www.scotland.police.uk/spa-media/kqeo5ogi/disciplinary-sop.docx)

**3 how many officers/staff have had their jobs terminated in the last five years.**

I can advise that 13 police officers and 14 members of staff have been dismissed in the last 5 years.

For police officer dismissals related to conduct, figures are based on the date of the conduct hearing being between 01/04/2018 and 31/03/2023. Otherwise the figures are based on actual date of dismissal.

You may be interested in the following documents:

[The Police Service of Scotland (Conduct) Regulations 2014](https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ssi/2014/68/contents/made).

[Scottish Government Guidance Document](https://www.gov.scot/binaries/content/documents/govscot/publications/factsheet/2018/04/conduct-and-performance-procedures-police-guidance/documents/police-guidance-conduct-procedures/police-guidance-conduct-procedures/govscot%3Adocument/Police%2BService%2Bof%2BScotland%2B%2528conduct%2529%2Bregulations%2B2014.pdf) re the Conduct Regulations

[Police Scotland Standards of Professional Behaviour](https://www.scotland.police.uk/about-us/who-we-are/our-standards-of-professional-behaviour/)

[Disciplinary SOP](https://www.scotland.police.uk/spa-media/kqeo5ogi/disciplinary-sop.docx)

**4 in light of govs scotland and uk partying and breaking rules all through covid , how many members of the public were convicted or fined for ridiculous rules that are now proving that were NOT necessary.**

Police Scotland do not collate or record management data or statistics on convictions for particular crimes and offences.

As such, section 17 of the Act applies as the information sought is *not held* by Police Scotland.

Data regarding fixed penalty notices issues is however publicly available:

[Enforcement and response data - Police Scotland](https://www.scotland.police.uk/about-us/covid-19-police-scotland-response/enforcement-and-response-data/)

In terms of section 16 of the Act, I am therefore refusing to provide you with the information sought. Section 16 requires Police Scotland to:

(a) state that it holds the information,   
(b) state that it is claiming an exemption,   
(c) specify the exemption in question and   
(d) state, if that would not be otherwise apparent, why the exemption applies.

I can confirm that the information requested is held by Police Scotland and the exemption that I consider to be applicable is set out at section 25(1) of the Act:

“Information which the applicant can reasonably obtain other than by requesting it under Section 1(1) is exempt information”

**5 in terms of filming in public or auditing have police scotland read all memos relating to these lawful acts i.e filming police stations and stopped badgering the individuals as we are finding although a pain to police these people are ensuring our rights are protected like they were not during covid .**

Police Scotland do not collate or record data on what police officers have read.

As such, section 17 of the Act applies as the information sought is *not held* by Police Scotland.

You may be interested in a recent FOI response which included a Police Scotland guidance document on the subject:

[22-1519 - SOP/Guidance - Public Space Photography - Police Scotland](https://www.scotland.police.uk/access-to-information/freedom-of-information/disclosure-log/disclosure-log-2022/august/22-1519-sop-guidance-public-space-photography/)

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.