| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 23-0295  Responded to: xx February 2023 |
| --- | --- |

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

**1. How many times an armed police unit was mobilised every year, broken down monthly, since police Scotland was created.**

The requested information is attached which provides a breakdown of all Police Scotland Armed Police (AP) firearms deployments throughout all divisions in Scotland, broken down into months (April to March) and years.

Please note we do not hold said information prior to April 2017 and as such, in terms of Section 17 of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002, this represents a notice that the information requested is not held by Police Scotland.

**2. Could the Highlands and Islands division and the north-east division be specifically?**

The ‘Highlands and Islands’ division (‘N’ division) and ‘North-East’ division (‘A’ division) have been highlighted.

Please be aware, the large increase in firearms deployments recorded in ‘North-East’ division (‘A’ division) after 2019 is attributed to the inclusion of firearms deployments data at Royal Residences.

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.