| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information ResponseOur reference: FOI 23-1325Responded to: 08 June 2023 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

**I am looking for the number of instances, charges and conviction rates regarding the crime of Livestock worrying from January 2018 until May 2023.**

**If possible I would also like the information to be separated into yearly and council area categories.**

## From the period January 2018 in May 2023 how many instances of livestock worrying have been reported to Police Scotland?

## From the period January 2018 in May 2023 how many people have been charged with livestock worrying as a criminal offence?

Please be advised that crime statistics are publicly available.

As such, in terms of Section 16 of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002, I am refusing to provide you with the information sought. Section 16 requires Police Scotland when refusing to provide such information because it is exempt, to provide you with a notice which:

(a) states that it holds the information,

(b) states that it is claiming an exemption,

(c) specifies the exemption in question and

(d) states, if that would not be otherwise apparent, why the exemption applies.

I can confirm that Police Scotland holds the information that you have requested and the exemptions that I consider to be applicable is set out at Section 25(1) and Section 27(1) of the Act - information otherwise accessible:

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

*“Information is exempt information if it is held with a view to its being published […] at a date not later than twelve weeks after that on which the request for the information is made.”*

The information you are seeking is available on the Police Scotland website, via the following link: [Crime data - Police Scotland](https://www.scotland.police.uk/about-us/how-we-do-it/crime-data/) - Group 6, Protection of Livestock from dogs.

Please be advised that the years 2013 to date will be added to the site over the next few weeks.

## From the period January 2018 in May 2023 how many have been given a warning about livestock worrying?

## From the period January 2018 in May 2023 how many people have been convicted of livestock worrying and handed a fine? And what was the amount they were fined?

## From the period January 2018 in May 2023 how many people have been convicted given a jail sentence for livestock worrying? And what were the sentences handed out.

Police Scotland does not hold conviction information. As such, in terms of Section 17 of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002, this represents a notice that the information you seek is not held by Police Scotland.

You may wish to contact the Crown Office and Procurator Fiscals Service (COPFS) which holds conviction information for Scotland. A request can be submitted to COPFS via email using the following address foi@copfs.gsi.gov.uk and in relation to fines, you can contact the Scottish Court and Tribunals Service: foi@scotcourts.gov.uk

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 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 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.