

Our Ref: IM-FOI-2022-2284
Date: 16 November 2022



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION (SCOTLAND) ACT 2002

I refer to your recent request for information which has been handled in accordance with the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002.

For ease of reference, your request is replicated below together with the response.

The total number of (a) Police Officer and (b) Police staff working days lost due to mental health related sick leave in the three years up to the year quarter ending 30/09/22

Police Scotland records Mental Health related illnesses under the heading 'Psychological disorders' which includes the following absence reasons; alcohol problems, anxiety, bereavement reaction, bipolar, debility, depression, nervous/psychological, other mental disorders, other psychological disorders, other stress, post-natal depression, post-traumatic stress and stress.

Please note that due to improvements in reporting protocols, 2021/22 provides the first true reflection of absence.

Working days lost due to absence category 'psychological disorders' are as follows:

Year	Police Officer	Police Staff
2020/21	44295	23820
2021/22	51290	25142
2022/23	28921	11520

The total number of (a) police officers and (b) police staff on (i) mental health related long term sick leave (ii) of those on long term mental health related long term sick leave specific to stress

A 'Long term absence' (LTA) is categorised as a single absence of 28 days or more.

The number of officers and staff with long terms absences due to 'psychological disorders' are as follows:

(Absence reasons counted in 'Absence Reason "Stress"' are Stress, Other Stress & Post-traumatic Stress.)

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Year	Absence Category/Reason	Police Officer	Police Staff
2020/21	Psychological Disorders Long Term Absence	621	396
	- with Absence Reason 'Stress'	367	209
2021/22	Psychological Disorders Long Term Absence	663	397
	- with Absence Reason 'Stress'	421	219
2022/23	Psychological Disorders Long Term Absence	511	232
	- with Absence Reason 'Stress'	351	137

Should you require any further assistance please contact Information Management - Dundee quoting the reference number given.

If you are dissatisfied with the way in which Police Scotland has dealt with your request, you are entitled, in the first instance, to request a review of our actions and decisions.

Your request must specify the matter which gives rise to your dissatisfaction and it must be submitted within 40 working days of receiving this response - either by email to foi@scotland.pnn.police.uk or by post to Information Management (Disclosure), Police Scotland, Clyde Gateway, 2 French Street, Dalmarnock, G40 4EH.

If you remain dissatisfied following the outcome of that review, you are thereafter entitled to apply to the Office of the Scottish Information Commissioner within six months for a decision. You can apply [online](#), by email to enquiries@itspublicknowledge.info or by post to Office of the Scottish Information Commissioner, Kinburn Castle, Doubledykes Road, St Andrews, Fife, KY16 9DS.

Should you wish to appeal against the Office of the Scottish Information Commissioner's decision, there is an appeal to the Court of Session on a point of law only.

As part of our commitment to demonstrate openness and transparency in respect of the information we hold, an anonymised version of this response will be posted to the Police Scotland Freedom of Information [Disclosure Log](#) in seven days' time.

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