| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 23-1361  Responded to: 13th June 2023 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

## I am just getting in touch to ask for the number of dogs that were destroyed by police after attacking a person in the last two years up until 01.05.23, please?

## Specifically, I am hoping to ask:

## 1. How many dogs were destroyed as a result of an attack against a person(s) under the Dangerous Dogs Act 1991 in the year between 01.05.22-30.04.23?

## 2. How many dogs were destroyed as a result of an attack against a person(s) under the Dangerous Dogs Act 1991 in the year between 01.05.21-30.04.22?

In response to these questions, I regret to inform you that I am unable to provide you with the information you have requested, as it would prove too costly to do so within the context of the fee regulations.

As you may be aware the current cost threshold is £600 and I estimate that it would cost well in excess of this amount to process your request.

As such, and in terms of Section 16(4) of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 where Section 12(1) of the Act (Excessive Cost of Compliance) has been applied, this represents a refusal notice for the information sought.

To explain, Police Scotland record crimes using the Scottish Government Justice Department crime classification codes and in this instance, the relevant offence would be offences involving dangerous dogs.

Police Scotland do not keep statistics on the number of dogs destroyed. If a dog were to have been put down, it would only be mentioned within the crime report. Therefore the only way to provide an accurate response to your request would be to manually examine each one of these crime reports in the date range of your request to establish whether the circumstances were relevant to the specifics of your request. There are no relevant markers which allow the automatic retrieval of this level of information.

If crime statistics on recorded/detected dangerous dog offences would be of interest, please submit a new request for information.

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.