| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 23-0580  Responded to: xx March 2023 |
| --- | --- |

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

I must first clarify that responses to questions will be in two parts dependant on the role of the Officer deploying with Taser:

i) Authorised Firearms Officers (AFOs) and/or

ii) Specially Trained Officers (STOs)

Accordingly each response is provided in two parts i) and ii) respectively.

## 1. Since 2014, how many Taser deployments have performed by Constables in Kirkcaldy or constables deployed to Kirkcaldy Police Station.

i) It important to define the term ‘deployment’. On this occasion Armed Policing are defining the term deployment to be when an officer has “Drawn”, “Aimed”, “Red Dotted”, “Arced“, “Fired” or “Drive Stun” their TASER.

With this in mind there has been a total of 13 TASER deployments in Kirkcaldy since 2014 across eight incidents.

ii) Police Scotland only started training STO’s in May 2018. On that basis for the period prior to that, section 17 of the Act applies and I can confirm that the information sought is not held by Police Scotland.

STO Taser deployments refers to the Taser being Drawn, Aimed, Arced, Red Dotted and Discharged.

With this in mind there has been a total of 16 TASER deployments by STOs in Kirkcaldy since 2018 across 16 incidents.

## 2. Please break this number down year on year and month on month

i) The figures below represent the month and year of how many incidents occurred in Kirkcaldy. Please note that the Taser may be utilised more than once during any given incident i.e. two subjects being red dotted etc. This can be broken down as follows:

| **Month & Year** | **Number of Incidents** | **Number of Subjects** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| June 2015 | 1 | 1 |
| Feb 2018 | 1 | 1 |
| April 2020 | 1 | 1 |
| May 2020 | 1 | 1 |
| Oct 2020 | 1 | 2 |
| Aug 2022 | 1 | 1 |
| Oct 2022 | 1 | 3 |
| Dec 2022 | 1 | 3 |

ii) The figures below represent the month and year of how many incidents occurred in Kirkcaldy. Please note that the Taser may be utilised more than once during any given incident i.e. two subjects being red dotted etc. This can be broken down as follows:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Month & Year** | **Number of Incidents** | **Number of Subjects** |
| July 2018 | 1 | 1 |
| Jan 2019 | 2 | 2 |
| Feb 2019 | 1 | 1 |
| May 2019 | 1 | 1 |
| August 2019 | 1 | 1 |
| Sept 2019 | 1 | 1 |
| Nov 2019 | 1 | 1 |
| July 2021 | 1 | 1 |
| May 2022 | 1 | 1 |
| July 2022 | 2 | 2 |
| Dec 2022 | 1 | 1 |
| Feb 2023 | 3 | 3 |

## 3. Please advise if there have been any fatalities related to the deployment of a Taser Firearm.

i) and ii) There have been no fatalities related to the deployment of Taser. On that basis section 17 of the Act applies and I can confirm that the information sought is not held by Police Scotland.

**4. Please advise how many Taser Deployments were undertaken by STO's.**

There has been 16 Taser deployments by STO’s in the specified time and area. See breakdown at Q2 above

## 5. Please advise how many Taser Deployment have been reported to PIRC.

i) From an Armed Policing perspective only Tasers that have been “Fired” or “Drive Stunned” require to be reported to PIRC. None of the above incidents meet this criteria.

ii) Three Taser deployments have been reported to PIRC.

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.