

Our Ref: IM-FOI-2022-1771  
Date: 13 September 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.

### **Can you tell me how many Special Constables there are in Scotland currently?**

The data presented has been extracted from Police Scotland's System to Co-ordination Personnel and Establishment (SCOPE) database.

As at 30 June 2022 there were 438 Special Constables within Police Scotland.

### **In the last 5 years how many probationers started with Police Scotland and left before their probationary period?**

A typical probationary period for a Constable joining the force is 2 years from their start date, sometimes probationary periods can be extended due to circumstances. For the purpose of extracting this data we have provided the no. of leavers with less than 2 years' service who are in the rank of Police Constable or Detective Constable for the following leaving reasons: Death in Service, Dismissal, Resignation, Transfer to Another Force.

Year	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23 (April-August 2022)
No. of Leavers	53	48	32	48	25

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](mailto: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.

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You can apply [online](#), by email to [enquiries@itspublicknowledge.info](mailto: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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