| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 25-0902  Responded to: 17 April 2025 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

## Can you provide a statistical breakdown in terms of rank only for all officers from Constable to Chief Superintendent ranks (federated ranks) who were ill health retired in the past 5 years (2020 - 2025 inclusive) with an accompanying age range for each rank showing the youngest & oldest age of officers at that rank who exited your organisation under an IHR.

The table below provides details officers who left Police Scotland through ill health retirement, broken down by rank, from 1 January 2020 to 28 February 2025. For each rank, the minimum and maximum age found within the data sample has been provided.

| Rank | No. of leavers | Minimum age | Maximum age |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Constable | 223 | 32 | 58 |
| Sergeant | 27 | 44 | 58 |
| Inspector | 24 | 42 | 60 |
| Chief Inspector | 7 | 47 | 54 |
| Superintendent | 1 | Refused | Refused |
| Chief Superintendent | 0 | n/a | n/a |

The age of the one Superintendent listed above is held by Police Scotland, but I am refusing to provide it in terms of section 16(1) of the Act on the basis that the exemption set out at section 38(1)(b) of the Act applies - personal data.

Personal data is defined in Article 4 of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) as:

‘Information relating to an identified or identifiable natural person (“data subject”); an identifiable natural person is one who can be identified, directly or indirectly, in particular by reference to an identifier such as a name, an identification number, location data, an online identifier or to one or more factors specific to the physical, physiological, genetic, mental, economic, cultural or social identity of that natural person’.

Section 38(2A) of the Act provides that personal data is exempt from disclosure where disclosure would contravene any of the data protection principles set out at Article 5(1) of the GDPR which states that:

‘Personal data shall be processed lawfully, fairly and in a transparent manner in relation to the data subject’.

Article 6 of the GDPR goes on to state that processing shall be lawful only if certain conditions are met. The only potentially applicable condition is Article 6(1)(f) which states:

‘Processing is necessary for the purposes of the legitimate interests pursued by the controller or by a third party, except where such interests are overridden by the interests or fundamental rights and freedoms of the data subject which require protection of personal data, in particular where the data subject is a child’.

Whilst I accept that you may have a legitimate interest with regards the disclosure of this information, I do not agree that disclosure could be considered necessary in the circumstances.

Notwithstanding, I am further of the view that your interests are overridden by the interests or fundamental rights and freedoms of the data subjects.

On that basis, it is considered that disclosure of the information sought would be unlawful.

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](https://www.foi.scot/appeal), by [email](mailto:enquiries@foi.scot) 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.