

Our Ref: IM-FOI-2022-1293
Date: 08 July 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.

In terms of the Freedom of information (Scotland) Act 2002 (“the 2002 Act”), I request the following information in relation to the recruitment of police officers to Police Scotland:

1. The number of applicants who have passed the Police Scotland Entrance Test each year from 2016 to 2021

2020/21 - 2141 applicants passed PSET
2019/20 - 3602 applicants passed PSET
2018/19 - 2739 applicants passed PSET

2. The number of applicants who have then gone on to pass the assessment day/interview stage and become police officers each year from 2016 to 2021

All applicants that become police officers have passed the Assessment Day, however applicant's can still be rejected after Assessment Day if they fail the final stages of vetting checks or the medical assessment.

2020/21 - 430 officers appointed
2019/20 - 1017 officers appointed
2018/19 - 894 officers appointed

3. The number of applicants who have passed the Police Scotland Entrance Test but failed or did not pass the assessment day/interview stage each year from 2016 to 2021

All applicants that progress to Assessment Day must pass the Police Scotland Entrance Test.

2020/21 - 172 applicants failed at Assessment Day
2019/20 - 400 applicants failed at Assessment Day
2018/19 - 494 applicants failed at Assessment Day

Please be advised that it is possible that candidates can apply in one financial year, but be interviewed in the next, and appointed in the financial year thereafter. The statistics are provided showing pass/fail at each of the required stages that has been asked about, but

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due to the above caveat it may not necessarily relate to the same applicant. The data can only be provided as far back as 2018/19 as this is the oldest data within the current retention period. As such, in terms of Section 17 of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002, this represents a notice that part of the information you seek is not held by Police Scotland.

Should you require any further assistance please contact Information Management - Dundee at foidundee@scotland.police.uk 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.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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