| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 23-3177  Responded to: 4th January 2024 |
| --- | --- |

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

**How many use of force complaints made by members of the public between May 2023 and October 2023 to Police Scotland's professional standards department.**

The Police Scotland [Complaints About the Police Standard Operating Procedure (SOP)](https://www.scotland.police.uk/spa-media/lgyddvsi/complaints-about-the-police-sop.docx) outlines how we deal with complaints. Allegations are recorded on the Professional Standards Department (PSD) database in accordance with the categories listed at appendices C and D.

A total of 397 complaints, received between 1 May and 31 October 2023 inclusive, involved a least one allegation of Assault and/ or Excessive Force.

**Of these complaints, how many resulted in officers body worn video footage being used by PSD staff to investigate the complaint.**

**Of these complaints, how many of which were filed following the viewing/ consideration of officers body worn video footage alone.**

**Of these complaints, how many of which were filed following the viewing/ consideration of officers body worn video footage in combination with documentation (such as police officer statements).**

Unfortunately, I estimate that it would cost well in excess of the current FOI cost threshold of £600 to process your request. I am therefore refusing to provide the information sought in terms of section 12(1) - Excessive Cost of Compliance.

To explain, there are no markers or flags in the PSD database which would indicate that body worn camera footage was reviewed/ relied upon as part of the investigation.

That means that the records associated with all 397 complaint files would have to be manually examined for relevance - an exercise I estimate would cost more that £600.

To be of assistance, I can however confirm that at the present time, body worn cameras are not used extensively throughout Police Scotland.

Our Authorised Firearms Officers and officers in our North East ‘A’ Division are, for the most part, the only officers currently equipped with them.

Police Scotland are developing a business case to widen the use of Body Worn Video technology across the organisation.

Dependant on available resources and finance, it is proposed that a phased roll out should begin in 2024.

You may be interested in some information about Body Worn Video available online:

[Body Worn Video - Police Scotland](https://www.scotland.police.uk/about-us/how-we-do-it/body-worn-video/)

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.