| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 25-0334  Responded to: 10 February 2025 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

**1) How many people have been cautioned, charged or fined by police for failing to have their XL bully-type dog muzzled in public since February 23 2024?  
  
2) How many people have been cautioned, charged or fined by police for failing to have their XL bully-type dog muzzled on a lead in public since  February 23 2024?  
  
3) How many people have been cautioned, charged or fined by police for owning an XL-bully type dog in Scotland without an exemption certificate since August 1 2024?**

Regarding those charged, 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) of the Act - Excessive Cost of Compliance.

By way of explanation, crimes involving dogs are recorded under Dangerous Dog crime classifications. To establish those charged specifically, all relevant crime reports would have to be individually examined. As such, this is an exercise which would exceed the cost limit set out in the Fees Regulations.

Regarding cautions, I can advise that Police Scotland does not hold data regarding cautions and section 17 of the Act therefore applies.

In England and Wales, a caution is a formal police warning whereas in Scotland, a caution is simply informing a person of their rights. It is common law, used when interviewing a suspect, taking a statement from someone who may end up being an accused person, or when charging someone.

In relation to individuals fined, I must advise the information sought is not held by Police Scotland and section 17 of the Act therefore applies.

By way of explanation, Police Scotland do not issue Fixed Penalty Notices in relation to behaviour described in the request.

To be of assistance, data relating to all Dangerous Dog offences is available online - [Crime data - Police Scotland](https://www.scotland.police.uk/about-us/how-we-do-it/crime-data/)

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.