| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 25-2293  Responded to: 08 August 2025 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

## How many police officers were assaulted on duty in your police force area in the financial years

## 2024 - 2025 2023 - 2024 2022 - 2023

During the period specified in your request, there was a change to the way in which we record assaults against police officers and staff. From 1 April 2024, new crime classifications were introduced - Common assault of police officer/staff (with injury) and Common assault of police officer/staff (without injury).

For recorded & detected crime stats from 1 April 2024 onwards I must advise that the information sought 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 section 25(1) exemption applies:

“Information which the applicant can reasonably obtain other than by requesting it […] is exempt information”.

The information sought is publicly available: [Crime data - Police Scotland](https://www.scotland.police.uk/about-us/how-we-do-it/crime-data/)

For the period prior to 2024, the relevant crime classifications were “Common Assault of an Emergency Worker”, which includes Police Officers, Prison Officers, Firefighters, Paramedics and any other personnel involved in emergency services, and serious assault, which includes any victim, regardless of occupation.

As such, all would need to be reviewed to establish whether police officer and I therefore 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.

To be of assistance, we may be able to provide some data regarding assaults reported to our People and Development team, as opposed to assaults that were recorded as crimes. To illustrate, please refer to the SPA Performance Reports available online - [How we are performing - Police Scotland](https://www.scotland.police.uk/about-us/what-we-do/how-we-are-performing/)

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.