| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 23-2932  Responded to: 4th December 2023 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

## Please can you provide me with the following information for years 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022 and 2023 (year to date)?

## The number of reports made to the force alleging a dog attack?

## How many dogs were seized by the force?

## How many dogs were destroyed after being reported for carrying out an attack?

## For clarity a dog attack could be against a human or another animal.

In response to these questions, I regret to inform you that I am unable to provide you with the information you have requested, as it would prove too costly to do so within the context of the fee regulations.

As you may be aware the current cost threshold is £600 and I estimate that it would cost well in excess of this amount to process your request.

As such, and in terms of Section 16(4) of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 where Section 12(1) of the Act (Excessive Cost of Compliance) has been applied, this represents a refusal notice for the information sought.

By way of explanation, the only way to provide an accurate response to your request would be to manually examine all Dangerous Dog crime reports in the date range of your request to establish whether the circumstances involved an ‘attack’, and whether a dog was seized and thereafter destroyed. There are no relevant markers which allow the automatic retrieval of this level of information.

This would involve case by case assessment of thousands of crime reports - an exercise which I estimate would far exceed the cost limit set out in the Fees Regulations.

To illustrate, recorded and detected crimes, broken down by Scottish Government Justice Department (SGJD) classification can be found via the following links:-

[How we are performing - Police Scotland](https://www.scotland.police.uk/about-us/what-we-do/how-we-are-performing/)

[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.