| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 23-2847  Responded to: 03 April 2024 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

## The Court of Session upheld in October 2021 in the case the case GTCS v Chief Constable of Police Service of Scotland ( [2021csoh110.pdf (scotcourts.gov.uk)](https://gbr01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fscotcourts.gov.uk%2Fdocs%2Fdefault-source%2Fcos-general-docs%2Fpdf-docs-for-opinions%2F2021csoh110.pdf%3Fsfvrsn%3Dc9f7fc8_1&data=05%7C01%7Cfoi%40scotland.police.uk%7C68403f8431fc49b7dd6208dbdc7e251a%7C6795c5d3c94b497a865c4c343e4cf141%7C0%7C0%7C638346206704752627%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=bygs3xUpem%2Fh%2BIbu6JdktcMJlbO1g9xCztdnodHHiUE%3D&reserved=0) ). Since the establishment of Police Scotland can you please share:-

## the number of times GTCS have requested information from Police Scotland?

## In response to this question, please see the table below. The table shows the number of enquiries from the General Teaching Council Scotland (GTCS), it does not provide the number of teachers investigated.  Police Scotland may have received more than one request per teacher.

Number of Enquires from GTCS broken by year.

| Year | Number of Enquiries from GTCS |
| --- | --- |
| 2023 | 82 |
| 2022 | 99 |
| 2021 | 59 |
| 2020 | 40 |
| 2019 | 47 |
| 2018 | 30 |

## b) the number of times that those requests have been met?

## c) The number of times those requests have been denied by Police Scotland?

## d) The number of times those requests have not been met and neither denied or responded to by police Scotland (i.e. a 'no response')

In response to the three questions above, please see the table below. The table provides the outcome of each request.

Please note for the year 2023, there a further two records, one is still in progress and the other is on hold awaiting further information.

The requests which are concluded as “No trace” are marked as such when research provides that there is no trace of the teacher or incident that the enquiry is in relation to.

The requests which are concluded as “Not Progressed” are duplicate requests which were responded to under a separate refence number.

Outcome for GCTS requests broken by year.

| Year | Full Release | Partial Release | No trace | Refusal | Not Progressed | Total |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 2023 | 39 | 22 | 7 | 12 | 0 | 82 |
| 2022 | 42 | 16 | 10 | 27 | 4 | 99 |
| 2021 | 4 | 13 | 5 | 34 | 3 | 59 |
| 2020 | 9 | 5 | 4 | 20 | 2 | 40 |
| 2019 | 17 | 7 | 2 | 13 | 8 | 47 |
| 2018 | 8 | 1 | 3 | 12 | 6 | 30 |

## e) For the answer to (c) the reasons for Police Scotland denying the requests

In response to your question, I can advise that since October 2021, Police Scotland would refuse a request only if a criminal case were pending, the police investigation is ongoing or if the request is deemed to be excessive or a disproportionate request for information.  In the main when a request for information is received, and when Police Scotland have the legal basis to share information, the requested information will be provided to allow the GTCS to decide whether their registrant is fit to teach.

Prior to October 2021 a request would have been refused if it was deemed that the incident or crime was not relevant to the work being undertaken by the accused or if the criminal case had been marked no proceedings or not guilty.

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.