| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 25-0190  Responded to: 24 March 2025 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

## On how many occasions have misconduct proceedings been brought towards a constable, or Police Scotland staff member. Please provide data for each year since 2020.

**Table 1- Police Staff**

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| --- | --- |
| **Police Staff - Disciplinary Investigations** | |
| **Calendar Year** | **Headcount of Investigations** |
| **2020** | **41** |
| **2021** | **25** |
| **2022** | **56** |
| **2023** | **45** |
| **2024** | **45** |

**Table 2- Police Officers**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Police Officers – Misconduct Investigations** | |
| **Calendar Year** | **Number of Subject Officers** |
| **2020** | **56** |
| **2021** | **60** |
| **2022** | **64** |
| **2023** | **75** |
| **2024** | **102** |

Data is based on the date the subject officer was notified of investigation.

## In relation to Q1, what is the longest period of time misconduct proceedings have ran on for?

In relation to police staff, the longest period of time misconduct proceedings have lasted for between the years 2020 and 2024 is 1347 days. The maximum amount of days is taken for one case from the ‘Case Opened’ to ‘Case Closed’ date.  Please note that a case must be closed to calculate the days taken to conclude a case and therefore does not include any cases currently ongoing.  The ‘Case opened’ date is used to sort the cases into year.

Please also note that the time taken to conclude a case can be affected by a variety of factors such as: absence, ongoing criminal cases & annual leave.

You further clarified that in relation to police officers, the data requested relates to misconduct investigations.

In relation to police officers, the longest period for a misconduct investigation is 622 days.

Please note that misconduct investigations can ‘conclude’ at many different stages following the Notice of Misconduct Investigation being served on a Police officer.

The figure provided is the longest period between a Notice of Misconduct Investigation being served on a Police officer and the matter being concluded by whatever means - this does not include live investigations that have not yet concluded.

## In relation to Q1, in how many instances did these officers leave the police service before proceedings had concluded?

75 officers have left the organisation.

For further information, the amount of police staff that left the organisation during the same period was 26.

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.