| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information ResponseOur reference: FOI 23-2695 Responded to: 2nd November 2023 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

## 1. Could you kindly confirm whether your force records dog attacks, as per section 3 of the Dangerous Dogs Act (DDA), as distinct offences in accordance with the National Crime Recording Standard (NCRS)?

## 2. I would appreciate if you could provide a month-by-month breakdown of the number of attacks recorded from January 1, 2020, to the present date. The nearest month end data would be acceptable.

## 3. In the aftermath of these recorded attacks, could you provide information on the number of dogs that were seized and subsequently assessed?

## 4. Furthermore, I am interested in knowing the number of dogs that were destroyed as a result of an attack. If possible, could you differentiate between those destroyed at the scene and those destroyed in kennels?

## 5. Could you confirm how many of the dogs that were destroyed were done so at the discretion of their owners?

## 6. I would also like to inquire whether your force records the breed, sex, and age of the dogs reported or seized. If so, could you please provide this information?

## 7. Lastly, does your force record whether the dog was an intact male or a spayed female? If this information is available, I would be grateful if you could share it.

Crimes in Scotland are recorded in accordance with the Scottish Government Justice Department offence classification codes and the Scottish Crime Recording Standard. The relevant offence in this instance is Dangerous Dogs offences however, these offences are not thereafter sub-categorised, such as specifically to attacks etc. As such, in terms of Section 17 of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002, this represents a notice that the information you seek is not held by Police Scotland.

Recorded and Detected statistics regarding Dangerous Dogs offences are publicly available on our website via the below link:

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

Due to the way in which these crimes are recorded in Scotland, we are unable to provide data on ‘attacks’ specifically without case by case assessment of all crime reports and as such, Section 12 (1) of the Act (Excessive Cost of Compliance) would be applied. Similarly, we have no other means of ascertaining whether dogs were destroyed or breeds involved etc.

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 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 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.