| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information ResponseOur reference: FOI 23-0276Responded to: 05 April 2023 |
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Your request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

Please accept our apologies for the delay in responding.

The Police Scotland [Complaints About the Police Standard Operating Procedure (SOP)](https://www.scotland.police.uk/spa-media/fifhh5vo/complaints-about-the-police-sop.pdf) outlines how we deal with complaints.

The formal disciplinary process for Police Officers is governed by [The Police Service of Scotland (Conduct) Regulations 2014](https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ssi/2014/68/contents/made).

The Police Service of Scotland (Conduct) Regulations 2014 [Scottish Government Guidance Document](https://www.gov.scot/binaries/content/documents/govscot/publications/factsheet/2018/04/conduct-and-performance-procedures-police-guidance/documents/police-guidance-conduct-procedures/police-guidance-conduct-procedures/govscot%3Adocument/Police%2BService%2Bof%2BScotland%2B%2528conduct%2529%2Bregulations%2B2014.pdf) provides further information on the Conduct process and conduct cases are categorised in line with our [Standards of Professional Behaviour](https://www.scotland.police.uk/about-us/who-we-are/our-standards-of-professional-behaviour/).

## Please send me the number of sexual assault allegations against officers employed by Police Scotland between January 2021 and January 2023.

In order to provide a response to this request, a review of complaint, conduct and misconduct files held on the Professional Standards database has been completed for allegations of rape and indecent assault against named officers, received between the above dates.  On that basis, there are 47 allegations, some of which may be pending legal proceedings and/ or judicial review prior to their closure.

## The number of racism allegations against officers employed by Police Scotland between January 2021 and January 2023.

Data has been provided from the Professional Standards database based on the following categories of allegation as they specifically involve a racial element:

* Discriminatory Behaviour allegations with a ‘Race’ sub type (complaints only)
* Racially Aggravated Conduct (complaint and conduct cases)
* Racially Aggravated Harassment (complaint and conduct cases)

For the above time period there were 100 allegations against named officers.

These allegations form part of complaint and/ or conduct files.

Please note that misconduct cases have no corresponding allegation category.

Cases may be pending legal proceedings and/ or judicial review prior to closure on the Professional Standards database.

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.