| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 24-1287  Responded to: 18 June 2024 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

**Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, I am writing to request the following information regarding assaults on police officers in the Dunfermline area from January 1, 2020, to January 1, 2024:**

**The total number of times police officers were assaulted.**

There are 288 recorded crime reports for assaults on police officers whilst carrying out their duties in the Dunfermline area between 1st January 2020 and 1st January 2024.

Please note, the number of crime reports does not reflect the number of officers assaulted. There may have been one or more officer named on each crime report.

**The methods of assault used in these incidents.**

Please note, each recorded assault may have more than one aggravator, resulting in the figures shown below differing from the number of recorded assaults.

*Table 1 – Method of assault on Police Officers – Dunfermline area – 1st January 2020 – 1st January 2024*

| **Method of assault** | **Total** |
| --- | --- |
| Attempt to bite | 5 |
| Attempt to headbutt | 11 |
| Attempt to kick | 1 |
| Bite | 34 |
| Digging in nails/ scratching | 7 |
| Elbow | 7 |
| Grab | 17 |
| Headbutt | 31 |
| Kick | 135 |
| Knee | 4 |
| Lashing out with arms and legs | 12 |
| Pull | 7 |
| Punch | 39 |
| Push | 22 |
| Shoulder charge/ tackle | 3 |
| Slap | 5 |
| Spit | 71 |
| Stamp | 3 |
| Strike with/ without weapon | 21 |
| Throw item | 10 |

**How badly were the police officers injured?**

The officers suffered minor injuries as a result of the above mentioned assaults.

**The outcomes of each incident (e.g., charges filed).**

By way of the outcome of each incident, what we can provide is the number of detected crimes. I can confirm out of the 288 recorded incidents, 284 were subsequently detected crimes.

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.