| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 23-1306  Responded to: 07 June 2023 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

## Can you tell me the number of Osman warnings dished out by the local police – warnings issued after police have received specific intelligence that individuals were at serious, and imminent, risk of being killed?

The police have an obligation to take all reasonable steps to protect the lives of people where there is a “real and immediate” risk to them from the criminal acts of another. To clarify further, such incidents which are classed as being a ‘real and immediate’ risk; and where the serving of notices is deemed appropriate are documented, for example:

Threat to life warning notice – Would be considered for issue to a potential “victim” where it is assessed there is credible intelligence that there is a viable threat to that person’s life.

Personal safety advice warning notice – Would be considered where it is assessed there is credible intelligence that a person may be at risk of personal injury.

Disruption notice and Disruption Interview Notices – Would be considered for issue to potential perpetrators where there is credible intelligence that persons may be involved in a criminal act.

In response to your request, it is important to ensure that the terminology ‘Osman Warnings’ is interpreted accurately i.e. as a Threat to Life (TTL) warning notice when intelligence exists that there is a viable threat to life. For absolute clarity on this matter, TTL Warning Notices and Personal Safety Advice Warning Notices are only issued to potential victims who have been fully identified.

I can confirm the total number issued as follows:

| **Year** | **Threat to Life Warnings** | **Personal Safety Advice Notices** | **Threat to Life Disruption Notices** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **2014** | 7 | 112 | 118 |
| **2015** | 28 | 81 | 113 |
| **2016** | 1 | 84 | 98 |
| **2017** | 13 | 122 | 64 |
| **2018** | 13 | 87 | 78 |
| **2019** | 17 | 162 | 181 |
| **2020** | 18 | 161 | 186 |
| **2021** | 20 | 152 | 165 |
| **2022** | 16 | 149 | 130 |

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.