| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information ResponseOur reference: FOI 23-2322Responded to: xx October 2023 |
| --- | --- |

Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

1. **The total number of dogs seized under Section 3 of the Dangerous Dogs Act in the month of July 2023 by the breed or type of the dog.**
2. **The total number of dogs seized under Section 3 of the Dangerous Dogs Act in the month of August 2023 by the breed or type of the dog.**

Unfortunately, I estimate that it would cost well in excess of the current FOI cost threshold of £600 to process your request.

I am therefore refusing to provide the information sought in terms of section 16(4) of the Act, as section 12(1) - Excessive Cost of Compliance - applies.

To explain, crimes in Scotland are recorded in accordance with the Scottish Government Justice Department classification codes and any offences in terms of the legislation referred to would be recorded in terms of the more generic classification of ‘Offences involving dangerous dogs’.

There were almost such 200 offences recorded across Scotland between 1 July and 31 August 2023 and our systems are not searchable based on either the breed of dog involved or whether it was seized.

Breed is likely to be available from the associated crime reports, but initial enquiries suggest that it will not always be possible to ascertain whether or not a dog was seized by officers from reading the crime report and noting the details.

That means it would be necessary to contact the reporting officers in each case to ask them to provide copies of their police issued notebooks for the material time and also, potentially, associated records. It may also be necessary to refer to any standard prosecution reports submitted to COPFS where relevant.

Taking all of that into account, I’m afraid that whilst we acknowledge your request covers a relatively short period of time, the level of detail is such that the associated research would cost in excess of £600.

To be of assistance, data regarding dangerous dog offences is periodically published by Police Scotland and is available on our website at both local authority and electoral ward level:

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

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.