

Our Ref: IM-FOI-2022-2651
Date: 29 December 2022



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION (SCOTLAND) ACT 2002

I refer to your recent request for information which has been handled in accordance with the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002.

For ease of reference, your request is replicated below together with the response.

1. The number of annual reports of domestic abuse - where the perpetrator was a police officer - that have been received by your force's Professional Standards Department from October 2017 to October 2022 - broken down year on year.

To provide some context to our response, it may be helpful to outline how the complaints and conduct processes operate in Scotland.

The complaint process and the conduct process are distinct from each other and both have separate assessment and recording processes within the Professional Standards Department (PSD) database.

Once complaint matters are concluded, the circumstances may be referred for a Conduct Assessment (not necessarily every aspect of the complaint, or every officer involved).

PSD manage conduct matters for Police Officers, whilst People & Development (P&D) manage conduct matters relative to Members of Police Staff.

There is therefore potential for the same officer/circumstances to appear on a complaint case and a conduct case.

Due to these processes, the complaints and conduct matters cannot simply be added together.

There can be one or more allegations contained within one complaint case and equally, there can be one or more subject officers relative to each allegation.

Conduct cases may contain multiple allegations, but are limited to one subject officer per case.

Subject officers are counted once per case, however the same officer may be subject to multiple cases and therefore may appear more than once.

Data has been provided below in relation to Police Officers subject to allegations involving a domestic circumstance, based on cases received 01/11/2017 – 31/10/2022 and broken by annual periods within those date parameters.

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An annual breakdown has been provided based on the 12 month period 1 November to 31 October (inclusive).

This is represented in the tables below as 2017/18, 2018/19 etc.

Complaint cases involving allegations with a domestic circumstance linked to a Police Officer, by annual period ¹

Category	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
Number of cases (complaints)	0	1	0	0	0

1. Data is based on the case received date.

Conduct cases involving allegations with a domestic circumstance linked to a Police Officer, by annual period ¹

Category	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
Number of cases (conduct)	7	20	20	21	30

1. Data is based on the case received date.

2. The specific incident(s) or offence(s) alleged in each report

This is interpreted to be a continuation of question 1 above.

Please note that each case may involve multiple allegations, therefore the number of allegations may vary from the number of cases.

Please also note that these allegations may be criminal or non-criminal in nature.

Allegations with a domestic circumstance linked to a Police Officer and attached to complaint cases, by category and annual period ^{1 2}

Allegation Category	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
Crimes of Dishonesty	0	1	0	0	0

1. Data is based on the case received date.

2. Each case may involve multiple allegations, therefore the number of allegations may vary from the number of cases.

Allegations with a domestic circumstance linked to a Police Officer and attached to conduct cases, by category and annual period ^{1 2}

Allegation Category	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
Authority, Respect and Courtesy	0	3	6	1	0
Discreditable Conduct	9	42	30	42	39
Honesty and Integrity	0	0	0	1	0
Grand Total	9	45	36	44	39

1. Data is based on the case received date.

2. Each case may involve multiple allegations, therefore the number of allegations may vary from the number of cases.

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3. The outcome(s) of each report

Again, this is interpreted to be a continuation of the questions above.

Please note that each allegation is subject to individual disposal, therefore the disposals listed below will correspond to the allegation figures provided in question 2 above.

Please also note that cases received may remain subject to live enquiry and therefore may not yet be concluded. Disposals are only attached to allegations when concluded.

Allegations with a domestic circumstance linked to a Police Officer and attached to complaint cases, by allegation disposal and annual period ^{1 2 3}

Allegation Disposal	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
No Action	0	1	0	0	0

- 1. Data is based on the case received date.
- 2. Each case may involve multiple allegations, therefore the number of allegations may vary from the number of cases.
- 3. Cases received may remain subject to live enquiry and therefore may not yet be concluded.

Allegations with a domestic circumstance linked to a Police Officer and attached to conduct cases, by allegation disposal and annual period ^{1 2 3}

Allegation Disposal	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
Hearing - Final Written Warning	2	0	1	0	0
Meeting - Verbal Warning	0	2	0	0	0
Meeting - No Action	1	3	0	0	0
Management Action	5	10	13	13	1
No Action	0	10	18	7	5
Retired/Resigned	1	18	0	6	1
Ongoing - not yet concluded	0	2	4	18	32
Grand Total	9	45	36	44	39

- 1. Data is based on the case received date.
- 2. Each case may involve multiple allegations, therefore the number of allegations may vary from the number of cases.
- 3. Cases received may remain subject to live enquiry and therefore may not yet be concluded.

4. Whether each report was referred to the IOPC (formerly known as the IPCC)

Police Scotland do not refer cases to the IOPC as the processes in Scotland differ from those in England. As such, I can confirm that none of the cases referred to above was reported to the IOPC.

Should you require any further assistance please contact Information Management quoting the reference number given.

If you are dissatisfied with the way in which Police Scotland has dealt with your request, you are entitled, in the first instance, to request a review of our actions and decisions.

Your request must specify the matter which gives rise to your dissatisfaction and it must be submitted within 40 working days of receiving this response - either by email to

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foi@scotland.police.uk or by post to Information Management (Disclosure), Police Scotland, Clyde Gateway, 2 French Street, Dalmarnock, G40 4EH.

If you remain dissatisfied following the outcome of that review, you are thereafter entitled to apply to the Office of the Scottish Information Commissioner within six months for a decision. You can apply [online](#), by email to enquiries@itspublicknowledge.info or by post to Office of the Scottish Information Commissioner, Kinburn Castle, Doubledykes Road, St Andrews, Fife, KY16 9DS.

Should you wish to appeal against the Office of the Scottish Information Commissioner's decision, there is an appeal to the Court of Session on a point of law only.

As part of our commitment to demonstrate openness and transparency in respect of the information we hold, an anonymised version of this response will be posted to the Police Scotland Freedom of Information [Disclosure Log](#) in seven days' time.