| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 25-1610  Responded to: 17th June 2025 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

## I have been asked by many of my Aera managers if the bill that introduce a new standalone offence of assaulting a retail worker in Scotland has made any difference? Do we have any stats I can share that you know about or know anyone in police Scotland who would be able to help me

The information sought is held by Police Scotland, but I am refusing to provide it in terms of section 16(1) of the Act on the basis that the section 25(1) exemption applies:

“Information which the applicant can reasonably obtain other than by requesting it […] is exempt information”.

However, to be of assistance, I can advise you that the information sought is publicly available on the Police Scotland website. I can thus refer you to our crime statistics, which are available broken down by Multi-Member Ward areas, with the most recent figures due to be updated in the next few weeks:

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

In this instance, within the spreadsheet, there are a variety of crime classification descriptions that will be able to provide useful information: ‘common assault of a retail worker’, ‘common assault of a retail worker (without injury)’, and ‘threatening or abusive behaviour of a retail worker’.

It is important to note that ‘detected’ crimes are those where an accused has been identified and there exists a sufficiency of evidence under Scots Law to justify consideration of criminal proceedings.

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](https://www.foi.scot/appeal), by [email](mailto:enquiries@foi.scot) 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.