| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 23-0064  Responded to: 26 January 2023 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

## This is a request under the Freedom of Information Act. I am contacting you to request all information available regarding enforcement of The Protection of Workers (Retail and Age-restricted Goods and Services) (Scotland) Act which came into force in February 2021.

## Specifically I need:

## How often this act has been enforced?

## What have been the results of any enforcement of this act?

## What offences have been committed under this act, and in what geographic areas?

In response to your request, please see the table at the end of this letter.

## Against workers in which fields/industries have these offences been committed?

Having considered this question in terms of the Act, I regret to inform you that I am unable to provide you with the information you have requested, as it would prove too costly to do so within the context of the fee regulations.

As you may be aware the current cost threshold is £600 and I estimate that it would cost well in excess of this amount to process your request.

As such, and in terms of Section 16(4) of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 where Section 12(1) of the Act (Excessive Cost of Compliance) has been applied, this represents a refusal notice for the information sought.

By way of explanation, the only way to provide an accurate response to your request would be to examine each and every recorded crime report shown in the table below to establish these details. There are no relevant markers which allow the automatic retrieval of this level of information. As such this an exercise which would far exceed the cost limit set out in the Fees Regulations.

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.

Recorded and Detected Crimes of Serious Assault of Retail Worker, Common Assault of a Retail Worker and Threatening or Abusive Behaviour of a Retail Worker, Broken by Council Area. 12th July 2021 - 19th January 2023, by Calendar Year

|  | **2021** | **2021** | **2022** | **2022** | **2023** | **2023** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Aberdeen City** | **Recorded** | **Detected** | **Recorded** | **Detected** | **Recorded** | **Detected** |
| Serious assault of a retail worker | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Common assault of a retail worker | 30 | 17 | 144 | 101 | 5 | 3 |
| Threatening or abusive behaviour of a retail worker | 35 | 15 | 114 | 66 | 3 | 5 |
| **Aberdeenshire** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Common assault of a retail worker | 2 | 1 | 13 | 13 | 0 | 0 |
| Threatening or abusive behaviour of a retail worker | 9 | 7 | 26 | 24 | 0 | 0 |
| **Moray** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Common assault of a retail worker | 1 | 1 | 6 | 6 | 0 | 0 |
| Threatening or abusive behaviour of a retail worker | 3 | 2 | 7 | 8 | 0 | 0 |
| **Perth & Kinross** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Serious assault of a retail worker | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Common assault of a retail worker | 4 | 3 | 19 | 13 | 1 | 0 |
| Threatening or abusive behaviour of a retail worker | 15 | 10 | 21 | 19 | 2 | 2 |
| **Angus** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Serious assault of a retail worker | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Common assault of a retail worker | 7 | 6 | 23 | 18 | 0 | 0 |
| Threatening or abusive behaviour of a retail worker | 24 | 18 | 43 | 36 | 2 | 1 |
| **Dundee City** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Serious assault of a retail worker | 1 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| Common assault of a retail worker | 26 | 20 | 89 | 53 | 6 | 2 |
| Threatening or abusive behaviour of a retail worker | 46 | 24 | 131 | 78 | 11 | 2 |
| **Highland** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Serious assault of a retail worker | 0 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| Common assault of a retail worker | 7 | 7 | 41 | 26 | 2 | 3 |
| Threatening or abusive behaviour of a retail worker | 6 | 2 | 39 | 27 | 2 | 2 |
| **Shetland Islands** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Common assault of a retail worker | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| **Eilean Siar** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Common assault of a retail worker | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| **Stirling** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Common assault of a retail worker | 0 | 0 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Threatening or abusive behaviour of a retail worker | 4 | 3 | 7 | 3 | 0 | 0 |
| **Falkirk** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Common assault of a retail worker | 12 | 6 | 25 | 22 | 1 | 1 |
| Threatening or abusive behaviour of a retail worker | 23 | 15 | 51 | 42 | 1 | 2 |
| **Clackmannanshire** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Common assault of a retail worker | 1 | 0 | 4 | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| Threatening or abusive behaviour of a retail worker | 4 | 3 | 8 | 7 | 0 | 0 |
| **City of Edinburgh** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Serious assault of a retail worker | 0 | 0 | 3 | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| Common assault of a retail worker | 106 | 45 | 358 | 188 | 15 | 9 |
| Threatening or abusive behaviour of a retail worker | 115 | 42 | 333 | 169 | 20 | 9 |
| **West Lothian** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Serious assault of a retail worker | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Common assault of a retail worker | 11 | 8 | 46 | 31 | 2 | 0 |
| Threatening or abusive behaviour of a retail worker | 22 | 14 | 72 | 40 | 1 | 3 |
| **East Lothian** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Common assault of a retail worker | 6 | 4 | 9 | 6 | 2 | 0 |
| Threatening or abusive behaviour of a retail worker | 9 | 5 | 29 | 22 | 0 | 1 |
| **Midlothian** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Common assault of a retail worker | 2 | 1 | 23 | 18 | 1 | 3 |
| Threatening or abusive behaviour of a retail worker | 12 | 5 | 34 | 24 | 2 | 2 |
| **Scottish Borders** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Common assault of a retail worker | 4 | 3 | 15 | 11 | 0 | 0 |
| Threatening or abusive behaviour of a retail worker | 11 | 6 | 30 | 23 | 3 | 1 |
| **Fife** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Common assault of a retail worker | 10 | 10 | 46 | 41 | 0 | 1 |
| Threatening or abusive behaviour of a retail worker | 10 | 7 | 82 | 60 | 5 | 4 |
| **Glasgow City** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Serious assault of a retail worker | 1 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| Common assault of a retail worker | 122 | 63 | 340 | 186 | 10 | 12 |
| Threatening or abusive behaviour of a retail worker | 158 | 70 | 382 | 192 | 17 | 11 |
| **East Renfrewshire** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Common assault of a retail worker | 0 | 0 | 12 | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| Threatening or abusive behaviour of a retail worker | 9 | 3 | 12 | 10 | 1 | 0 |
| **East Dunbartonshire** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Common assault of a retail worker | 5 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 0 | 0 |
| Threatening or abusive behaviour of a retail worker | 3 | 1 | 9 | 6 | 0 | 0 |
| **East Ayrshire** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Common assault of a retail worker | 5 | 5 | 27 | 21 | 1 | 1 |
| Threatening or abusive behaviour of a retail worker | 12 | 7 | 49 | 41 | 1 | 1 |
| **North Ayrshire** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Common assault of a retail worker | 11 | 10 | 34 | 27 | 1 | 1 |
| Threatening or abusive behaviour of a retail worker | 26 | 20 | 66 | 51 | 1 | 1 |
| **South Ayrshire** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Common assault of a retail worker | 4 | 3 | 33 | 25 | 7 | 6 |
| Threatening or abusive behaviour of a retail worker | 11 | 6 | 52 | 42 | 3 | 4 |
| **North Lanarkshire** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Common assault of a retail worker | 16 | 7 | 58 | 44 | 9 | 7 |
| Threatening or abusive behaviour of a retail worker | 22 | 10 | 114 | 81 | 9 | 7 |
| **South Lanarkshire** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Serious assault of a retail worker | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Common assault of a retail worker | 16 | 6 | 47 | 32 | 2 | 3 |
| Threatening or abusive behaviour of a retail worker | 34 | 18 | 107 | 74 | 6 | 5 |
| **Argyll & Bute** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Common assault of a retail worker | 3 | 1 | 13 | 14 | 2 | 2 |
| Threatening or abusive behaviour of a retail worker | 9 | 5 | 17 | 17 | 0 | 0 |
| **West Dunbartonshire** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Common assault of a retail worker | 10 | 5 | 37 | 22 | 0 | 0 |
| Threatening or abusive behaviour of a retail worker | 16 | 6 | 34 | 24 | 1 | 1 |
| **Inverclyde** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Common assault of a retail worker | 5 | 4 | 14 | 11 | 2 | 1 |
| Threatening or abusive behaviour of a retail worker | 7 | 4 | 18 | 12 | 0 | 1 |
| **Renfrewshire** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Serious assault of a retail worker | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Common assault of a retail worker | 12 | 9 | 49 | 34 | 2 | 0 |
| Threatening or abusive behaviour of a retail worker | 12 | 6 | 37 | 27 | 3 | 1 |
| **Dumfries & Galloway** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Common assault of a retail worker | 4 | 3 | 6 | 7 | 0 | 0 |
| Threatening or abusive behaviour of a retail worker | 12 | 9 | 17 | 15 | 0 | 1 |
| **Total** | **1125** | **598** | **3494** | **2233** | **165** | **122** |

All statistics are provisional and should be treated as management information. All data have been extracted from Police Scotland internal systems and are correct as at 20th January 2023.

Please note, the first offence is noted with a date raised of 12th July 2021.