| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information ResponseOur reference: FOI 23-2444Responded to: 16th October 2023 |
| --- | --- |

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

## 1. Please could you provide me with the number of reports of dog attacks (i.e. owner or person in charge allowing dog to be dangerously out of control within your County (whether or not in a public place) injuring any person or assistance dog).

## 2. Please can you provide the number of reported incidents FROM January 2023 to present date.

## 3. Can you confirm the number deaths related to dog attacks.

## 3. Please can you provide a breakdown of the figure for each time period by recorded outcomes (e.g. number of Charge/Summons, Community Resolution etc).

## 4. can you positively confirm the breed of dogs involved in dog attacks;

## 5. can you positively confirm the breed of dogs involved in dog attacks that lead to a persons death.

## 6. Can you confirm who assessed these dogs were XL Bullies and what criteria they used to do so.

Having considered your request in terms of the above 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, whilst incidents are categorised, there is no specific category which relates to dog attacks. Any such incident would be categorised as an ‘Animal’ incident and all of those incident reports would have to be individually examined to determine the circumstances.

This would involve case by case assessment of thousands of incident reports - an exercise which I estimate would far exceed the cost limit set out in the Fees Regulations.

Similarly, the crime recording systems used by Police Scotland have no means of searching crime reports for dog attacks specifically however, any such instance would be recorded under the Dangerous Dog offences, all of which would have to be individually examined to establish whether they were relevant to your request.

To be of some assistance, recorded and detected crime statistics are publicly available on the Police Scotland website broken down by Multi-Member Ward area and SGJD crime classification:-

[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.