| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 24-2104  Responded to: 27th August 2024 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

## For the years 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, and 2024 (up to the present day), I request data on arrests made under or in relation to The Animal Welfare Act. Specifically, I am seeking the following details:

## Total Number of Arrests: The total number of arrests made under or related to The Animal Welfare Act for each of the specified years.

## Animal Involved: Please specify the type of animal(s) involved in each incident (e.g., dog, cat, horse, farm animals, etc.).

## Type of Crime Committed: A detailed description of the crime committed in each case (e.g., neglect, mutilation, poisoning, illegal sale, theft, etc.).

## Geographical Location: If possible, please provide the geographical location (e.g., city, county, or police jurisdiction) where the arrest was made.

## Outcome of the Arrest: Please specify the outcome of the arrest, if available (e.g., charges filed, conviction, acquittal, ongoing investigation, etc.).

It is assumed that your request relates to the Animal Welfare Act 2006. As such the information sought is not held by Police Scotland and section 17 of the Act therefore applies.

By way of explanation the Act does not extend to Scotland. To be of assistance, data for all animal related crimes is available online at [Crime data - Police Scotland](https://www.scotland.police.uk/about-us/how-we-do-it/crime-data/). Animal related crimes are group 6 crimes.

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.