| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 24-2160  Responded to: 02 October 2024 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

## 1. For each of the last five financial years, please provide the number of (i) officers and (ii) staff with a recorded business interest.

I have included a table below at the end of this letter which provides the number of Police Officers and Police Staff with a recorded business interest.

## 2. For the most recent financial year only (2023/24), please break down the recorded business interests to show the numbers (i) volunteering (ii) in self-employment and (iii) in paid employment with other organisations.

## 3. For the most recent financial year only, please provide a breakdown of the figures to show those in (i) self-employment and (ii) paid employment with other organisations by employment nature.

I can advise you that Police Scotland does not hold the requested information. In terms of Section 17 of the Act, this letter represents a formal notice that information is not held.

By way of explanation, this information cannot be broken down into volunteering/self-employed or paid or the organisation as this is a free text field and not always recorded.

## 4. For the most recent financial year only, please provide the number of (i) officers and (ii) staff whose applications to pursue business interests you refused. Please specify how many of each (i) appealed and (ii) had their refused decision overturned on appeal.

I regret to inform you that I am unable to provide you with the information you have requested above. Therefore in accordance with Sections 12(1) (Excessive cost of compliance) and 16(4) (Refusal of request) of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 (the Act), this letter represents a Refusal Notice.

By way of explanation, this decision would be made at a divisional level. There are 13 divisions across Scotland and in total 304 Police Offices across the country. To answer your request, we would need to contact each divisional area to identify how many business interests had been refused. This would take a considerable amount of time and the task would well be in excess of the £600 and 40 hours prescribed by the Scottish Ministers under the Act.

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.

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| **Police Officers** | **2019/2020** | **2020/2021** | **2021/2022** | **2022/2023** | **2023/2024** | **2024 -30/08/2024** |
| Betting/Gaming | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Construction | 4 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 4 | 3 |
| Education/Training/Coaching | 13 | 13 | 13 | 30 | 52 | 25 |
| Entertainment | 18 | 4 | 13 | 12 | 22 | 18 |
| Property Letting | 50 | 48 | 43 | 82 | 100 | 51 |
| Shop or other like business | 30 | 54 | 48 | 56 | 82 | 42 |
| Sport | 14 | 19 | 13 | 25 | 42 | 39 |
| Support Worker | 0 | 5 | 2 | 4 | 13 | 1 |
| Trade | 9 | 10 | 20 | 15 | 19 | 12 |
| Volunteer | 15 | 8 | 7 | 22 | 37 | 18 |
| **Total** | **153** | **162** | **161** | **248** | **371** | **209** |

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| **Police Staff** | **2019/2020** | **2020/2021** | **2021/2022** | **2022/2023** | **2023/2024** | **2024 -30/08/2024** |
| Construction | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| Education/Training/Coaching | 4 | 2 | 6 | 6 | 20 | 6 |
| Entertainment | 4 | 3 | 6 | 4 | 7 | 3 |
| Property Letting | 6 | 7 | 9 | 11 | 14 | 18 |
| Shop or other like business | 19 | 11 | 16 | 17 | 28 | 11 |
| Sport | 1 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 9 | 0 |
| Support Worker | 1 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 12 | 0 |
| Trade | 4 | 1 | 3 | 4 | 8 | 0 |
| Volunteer | 8 | 4 | 8 | 2 | 7 | 7 |
| **Total** | **47** | **32** | **51** | **48** | **105** | **45** |