| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 25-0103  Responded to: 14 January 2025 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

## I am aiming to answer this question:

## “How effective is the Dangerous Dog Act (1991) and Breed Specific Legislation, at reducing dog attacks leading to hospitilisation within the UK?”

## I am requesting data for the below questions from all hospital trusts within the UK, where possible:

## Since 2019 how many dog attacks have been reported each year, and if possible, broken down into breeds?

## How many dog on human attacks have, to your knowledge, resulted in hospitalisations each year since 2019?

## How many reports of XL bully attacks since 2019, and have you noticed a decrease since the 1st February 2024?

## Which dog breed carried out the most attacks each year since 2019?

Unfortunately, I estimate that it would cost well in excess of the current FOI cost threshold of £600 to process your request. I am therefore refusing to provide the information sought in terms of section 12(1) of the Act - Excessive Cost of Compliance.

By way of explanation, all offences involving a dangerous dog are recorded as a dangerous dog offence. We cannot search specifically for dog attacks. The only way to do this would be to manually assess each report to find relevance to a dog attack. This is an exercise that would exceed the cost threshold set out within the Act.

However to be of assistance, you may wish to see the following link for general dangerous dog data [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](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.