| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 24-0631  Responded to: 13 March 2024 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

## How many police officers are employed by Police Scotland?

The information sought is held by Police Scotland, but I am refusing to provide it in terms of section 16(1) of the Act on the basis that the section 25(1) exemption applies:

“Information which the applicant can reasonably obtain other than by requesting it […] is exempt information”.

The information sought is publicly available:

[Police Scotland Officer Numbers - Police Scotland](https://www.scotland.police.uk/about-us/how-we-do-it/police-scotland-officer-numbers/)

## How many of them have been vetted in the last a) three years b) five years c) ten years

a) 1,984

b) 1,338

c) 3,514

To clarify, anyone who joins Police Scotland is required to be vetted in advance of joining. Therefore, all officers have been vetted. When an officer takes up a designated post, that is a post which requires a higher level of vetting clearance, they are vetted to Management Vetting (MV) level.

You may also be interested in the result of a recent exercise undertaken where all officers and staff within Police Scotland were checked against national databases - [Results published in policing’s largest integrity screening project - Police Scotland](https://www.scotland.police.uk/what-s-happening/news/2024/january/results-published-in-policing-s-largest-integrity-screening-project/)

## How many officers have you stripped of their duties after they were vetted in the past 10 years? This data should be provided on an annual basis

In response to this question, I have interpreted this question based on an officer being dismissed following a vetting refusal. Therefore, I can advise you that the answer is nil.

To be of assistance I have provided a copy of our Vetting Manual of Guidance and part 6 is relevant to this question.

## How many vetting reports have expired and not been redone? How many of those are for former officers?

Information on renewals of vetting clearances is set out at Section 3.4 of the Vetting Manual of Guidance. We strictly adhere to the timescales as set out.

When an officer resigns or retires, their vetting clearance is withdrawn.

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.