| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information ResponseOur reference: FOI 24-1551Responded to: 15th July 2024 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

## 1. How many qualified Forensic Collision Investigators have been held by your force annually from 2009 to the present? Please can the data be provided annually.

I can confirm that Police Scotland presently have 68 Forensic Collision Investigators.

However, establishing numbers for previous years would require a manual search of every officer’s individual personnel record to establish if they were a Collision Investigator and, if so, what period they performed this role over. This is vast exercise so I unfortunately 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.

## 2a. How many live crash scenes were attended by your force annually from 2009 to the present.

Table 1 below shows recorded road traffic collisions by severity where a police officer attended - for the period 1st January 2009 - 30th June 2024:

Table 1

| **Year** | **Slight** | **Serious** | **Fatal** | **Total** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 2009 | 7634 | 1844 | 196 | 9673 |
| 2010 | 6669 | 1565 | 185 | 8419 |
| 2011 | 6486 | 1513 | 173 | 8172 |
| 2012 | 6451 | 1584 | 157 | 8199 |
| 2013 | 6097 | 1312 | 157 | 7566 |
| 2014 | 5089 | 1367 | 177 | 7353 |
| 2015 | 5719 | 1309 | 155 | 7183 |
| 2016 | 5604 | 1306 | 174 | 7084 |
| 2017 | 4664 | 1280 | 138 | 6082 |
| 2018 | 3683 | 1042 | 125 | 4850 |
| 2019 | 2609 | 1098 | 122 | 3829 |
| 2020 | 1398 | 878 | 100 | 2376 |
| 2021 | 1674 | 1207 | 119 | 3000 |
| 2022 | 1922 | 1342 | 139 | 3403 |
| 2023 | 1962 | 1562 | 148 | 3672 |
| 2024\* | 670 | 533 | 64 | 1267 |

All statistics are provisional and should be treated as management information.
All data have been extracted from Police Scotland internal systems and are correct as of 10th July 2024

Data excludes non-injury collisions as per standard operating procedure.

Note - the data is subject to change and will be updated on the next extract of data from CRaSH on 3rd August 2024

Please note - only records where a Police Officer attended have been selected.

## 2b. and of these, how many were attended by a Forensic Collision Investigator? Please can the data be provided annually.

Our records currently date from financial year 2018/19. Therefore, for 2009 to 31 March 2018, the information sought is not held by Police Scotland and section 17 of the Act applies.

Table 2 shows the number of road traffic collisions attended by a forensic investigator for each financial year from 2018/19.

Table 2

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Year** | **Total collisions attended by Forensic Investigators** |
| 2018/19 | 266 |
| 2019/20 | 320 |
| 2020/21 | 236 |
| 2021/22 | 267 |
| 2022/23 | 265 |
| 2023/24 | 307 |
| 2024/25 (up to 21 June 24) | 72 |

## 3. How many serious injury road traffic collision cases were investigated by FCI’s annually from 2009 to the present? Please can the data be broken down annually.

Our records currently date from financial year 2018/19. Therefore, for 2009 to 31 March 2018, the information sought is not held by Police Scotland and section 17 of the Act applies.

Table 3 shows the number of serious injury road traffic collisions attended by a forensic investigator for each financial year from 2018/19.

Please note that a collision investigation will have been carried out at the scene but not all will have required continued investigation or a report to be compiled.

Table 3

| **Year** | **Total serious collisions attended by Forensic Investigators** |
| --- | --- |
| 2018/19 | 105 |
| 2019/20 | 165 |
| 2020/21 | 124 |
| 2021/22 | 126 |
| 2022/23 | 117 |
| 2023/24 | 153 |
| 2024/25 (up to 21 June 24) | 39 |

## 4. How many fatal road traffic collision cases were investigated by FCIs annually from 2009 to the present? Please can the data be broken down annually.

Our records currently date from financial year 2018/19. Therefore, for 2009 to 31 March 2018, the information sought is not held by Police Scotland and section 17 of the Act applies.

Table 4 shows the number of fatal road traffic collisions attended by a forensic investigator for each financial year from 2018/19.

Table 4

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Year** | **Total fatal collisions attended by Forensic Investigators** |
| 2018/19 | 161 |
| 2019/20 | 155 |
| 2020/21 | 112 |
| 2021/22 | 141 |
| 2022/23 | 148 |
| 2023/24 | 154 |
| 2024/25 (up to 21 June 24) | 33 |

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.