| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 23-2615  Responded to: 06 November 2023 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

## Could you please confirm how many Police Scotland officers will receive training before the Hate Crime and Public Order (Scotland) Act is implemented early next year?

I can advise that Police Scotland does not hold the above 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, at this moment we do not hold a definite figure for this.

To be of assistance, Police Scotland cannot say how many Police Officers will be trained (some police staff will be trained as well).  We can estimate however this will be around 17,000 in total.  There will be different levels of training from online platforms, online face-to-face and some in person.

## Can you also confirm how many officers will become a part of the dedicated hate crime unit?

I can advise you that Police Scotland do not have a dedicated hate crime unit.

For guidance, in our HMICS Assurance Review of Hate Crime (6/21) – Police Scotland Improvement Update to the SPA Performance Committee on 12 September 2023, under recommendation 03 that we consider establishing a dedicated hate crime unit, the revised target date of November 2023 is the date we will discharge our response to the recommendation. Police Scotland has never confirmed it will set up a dedicated hate crime unit.

## And lastly, can you provide costs associated with i) the training of officers in regards to the new legislation and ii) the establishment and ongoing costs associated with the new dedicated hate crime unit.

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

To explain, Police Scotland will not be able to provide any costs until this project is complete.

Please note, Police Scotland is working hard to ensure we are prepared for implementation of the new legislation and training for officers is set to begin in December. Our training package has been developed in close consultation with diversity staff associations to ensure all protected characteristics under the new Act are clearly represented and articulated, and that officers are best prepared when they respond to hate crimes and incidents.

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.