| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 23-3189  Responded to: 29th December 2023 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

## Could you please provide me with the number of applications to join Police Scotland in 2019, 2020, 2021, and 2022 and the number of applicants who entered training and the number who completed it. Where possible (2019 and 2020) can you say how many completed their probationary period.

I must first of all advise you that where you mention ‘the number of applicants who entered training and the number who completed it’, I have interpreted this as those who started and completed their probation.

The table below sets out the number of applications received, the number of those appointed and the number of officers who thereafter completed their probation.

|  | **Total Applications** | **Total Appointed** | **Completed Probation** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 2019/20 | 4,228 | 1,017 | 943 |
| 2020/21 | 5,611 | 430 | 379 |
| 2021/22 | 2,237 | 442 | 0 |

## In addition could you give the latest available figures for:

## Length of service at promotion from constable to sergeant,

Based on the latest available figures, the average length of police service was 16.5 years.

## Length of service at promotion from sergeant to inspector

Based on the latest available figures, the average length of police service was 17.9 years.

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.