| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 24-0183  Responded to: 09 February 2024 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

## - The total number of people who applied to join the force, broken down by year, in 2021 and 2022 and, of those, the number of successful applicants.

Police Officer

2020/2021           Applications 5611             Appointed 430

2021/2022           Applications 2237             Appointed 442

Police Staff

2020/2021           Applications 6859             Appointed 405

2021/2022           Applications 10,103         Appointed 451

## - The number of people who applied to join the force in 2023, broken down by month and, of those, the number of successful applicants.

2022/2023           Applications 3841             Appointed 577

| **Month/year** | **Applications** |
| --- | --- |
| April 2022 | 200 |
| May 2022 | 227 |
| June 2022 | 257 |
| July 2022 | 354 |
| August 2022 | 503 |
| September 2022 | 357 |
| October 2022 | 311 |
| November 2022 | 329 |
| December 2022 | 253 |
| January 2023 | 336 |
| February 2023 | 332 |
| March 2023 | 382 |
| Total | 3841 |

Police Staff

2022/2023         Applications 9443            Appointed 1058

| **Month/year** | **Applications** |
| --- | --- |
| April 2022 | 654 |
| May 2022 | 854 |
| June 2022 | 828 |
| July 2022 | 913 |
| August 2022 | 1584 |
| September 2022 | 757 |
| October 2022 | 938 |
| November 2022 | 516 |
| December 2022 | 507 |
| January 2023 | 900 |
| February 2023 | 292 |
| March 2023 | 700 |
| Total | 9443 |

## - The number of vacancies in the force, as of 15th January 2024.

As at the 15th January 2024, there were the following vacancies:

Police officers – 296.2

Police Staff – 459

Please note that for vacant posts, the management of the system is reliant on post holders maintaining accurate structures within their areas and as a result are subject to change and only accurate as at date of report.

## - The number of officers and staff, listed separately, on restricted duties as of 15th January 2024.

Due to recording method these figures are as at 31st December 2023.

The figurers below include all officer and staff who are on restricted duties and categorised as non-deployable and deployable with restrictions:

Police Officers – 2146

Police Staff - 137

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.