| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 24-1800  Responded to: 06 August 2024 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

**I am requesting figures for probationer intake for each year since the establishment of Police Scotland in 2013, broken down by the number and percentage of those probationers who were male and the number who were female.**

The below table provides the headcount figure of total probationer recruits, by calendar year from April 2015 to July 2024.

Police Scotland’s System to Co-ordination Personnel and Establishment (SCOPE) database was unified into a single system in April 2015.

For the period prior, given the level of research involved, I 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) - Excessive Cost of Compliance.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Year** | **Headcount** | **% Male** | **% Female** |
| 2015 | 713 | 69.4% | 30.6% |
| 2016 | 772 | 68.4% | 31.6% |
| 2017 | 814 | 68.1% | 31.9% |
| 2018 | 712 | 62.4% | 37.6% |
| 2019 | 960 | 59.7% | 40.3% |
| 2020 | 613 | 58.4% | 41.6% |
| 2021 | 624 | 54.0% | 46.0% |
| 2022 | 911 | 61.3% | 38.7% |
| 2023 | 584 | 70.2% | 29.8% |
| 2024 | 581 | 68.7% | 31.3% |

**In addition, if this information is available, I would also like to request the same information for the number and percentage of male and female applicants for each year since 2013.**

Data for the period prior to 2022 is not held by Police Scotland and section 17 of the Act therefore applies. This is in line with the Police Scotland’s Record Retention Standard Operating Procedure.

Applications for Police Officer roles:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Applied** | **2022** | **2023** | **2024** |
| Male | 69.8% | 67.6% | 70% |
| Female | 30.2% | 32.4% | 30% |
| Total | 3874 | 3236 | 2153 |

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.