| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 23-1778  Responded to: 25th September 2023 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

Please accept our apologies for the delay in responding.

We have received an unprecedented volume of requests on the subject of police officer conduct and criminality and that has, unfortunately, impacted on our ability to meet the statutory timescales in some cases.

The formal disciplinary process for Police Officers is governed by [the Police Service of Scotland (Conduct) Regulations 2014](https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ssi/2014/68/contents/made).

The associated [Scottish Government Guidance Document](https://www.gov.scot/binaries/content/documents/govscot/publications/factsheet/2018/04/conduct-and-performance-procedures-police-guidance/documents/police-guidance-conduct-procedures/police-guidance-conduct-procedures/govscot%3Adocument/Police%2BService%2Bof%2BScotland%2B%2528conduct%2529%2Bregulations%2B2014.pdf) provides further information on the process and allegations are categorised in line with our [Standards of Professional Behaviour](https://www.scotland.police.uk/about-us/who-we-are/our-standards-of-professional-behaviour/).

The Police Scotland [Complaints About the Police Standard Operating Procedure (SOP)](https://www.scotland.police.uk/spa-media/lgyddvsi/complaints-about-the-police-sop.docx) outlines how we deal with complaints.

Allegations are recorded in accordance with the categories listed at appendices C and D.

You may also be interested in our [Suspension from Duty SOP](https://www.scotland.police.uk/spa-media/3mbmetbo/suspension-from-duty-sop.pdf).

You will note our response refers to domestic and sexual ‘circumstance’. These are markers on the Professional Standards Department (PSD) database which can be appended to any conduct or complaint case containing allegations which are perceived to contain a domestic or sexual element (or in some cases, both), whether physical or non-physical, criminal or non-criminal.

1. **The number of serving police officers who are currently suspended from duty due to domestic abuse allegations as of 30th June 2023**

A total of 11 officers were serving a suspension as at 30/06/2023 in relation to allegations involving a domestic circumstance.

Please note that there may be multiple circumstances involved in the suspension of any one officer (e.g. domestic and sexual).

1. **The number of serving officers currently suspended in relation to sexual offence allegations as of 30th June 2023**

A total of 31 officers were serving a suspension as at 30/06/2023 in relation to allegations involving a sexual circumstance.

Please note that there may be multiple circumstances involved in the suspension of any one officer (e.g. domestic and sexual).

1. **For the calendar years 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022 and up until 30th June 2023 - broken down by year - how many officers have been convicted of domestic abuse charges?**

14 officers have been convicted of domestic abuse charges between 1 January 2018 and 30 June 2023.

Please note that we do not hold the exact date of conviction on our systems and section 17 of the Act therefore applies. The information sought, in terms of a detailed annual breakdown, is not held by Police Scotland.

You may wish to contact the Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service (COPFS) for further information.

1. **For the calendar years 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022 and up until 30th June 2023 - broken down by year - how many officers have been convicted of sexual offence charges**

17 officers have been convicted of sexual offences charges between 1 January 2018 and 30 June 2023.

Please note that we do not hold the exact date of conviction on our systems and section 17 of the Act therefore applies. The information sought, in terms of a detailed annual breakdown, is not held by Police Scotland.

You may wish to contact the Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service (COPFS) for further information.

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.