| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 24-2877  Responded to: 10 December 2024 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

**I am currently conducting an investigation into the volunteering opportunities available within the Police Scotland Special Constabulary, focusing on how this experience contributes to self-development and career pathways in policing.**

## I would appreciate details regarding the following:

## The specific training programs offered to Special Constables, including content and duration.

The training program for Special Constables is as follows:

* A four hour online input on Operational Safety Training (OST) theory, prior to attending college.
* Seven and a half days in person at college. (OST theory exam on the final Friday morning)
* Four full one day inputs - online or in person depending on students’ locations. These will follow straight after the OST week.
* A six week deployment in division to allow for Special Constables to utilise the skills they will have already been taught.
* Three further full one day inputs online or in person.
* A Final exam.

The process of completing all training is approximately four or five months including their deployment phase.

All one-day inputs are legislative inputs with the exception of a one-day diversity input.

**The impact of Special Constables on police operations, including statistics or reports on how they aid in community relations and asset management.**

## Any documented benefits observed from the involvement of volunteers in policing tasks that are not priorities for the main force.

In terms of section 17 of the Act, this represents a notice that the information you seek is not held by Police Scotland.

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.