| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 25-0357  Responded to: 21February 2025 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

## For each calendar year 2021, 2022, 2023 and 2024 and for the period 1st January 2025 to 27th January 2025, please tell me:

## The total number of threat-to-life warning notices, also known as Osman warnings, issued by your force

## How many of the threat-to-life warning notices were issued to people aged under 18

The police have an obligation to take all reasonable steps to protect the lives of persons where information comes to the notice of Police, that there is a specific ‘Threat to Life’ (TTL), risk to personal safety or indication of the commission of a serious crime to an individual. Such incidents are dealt with by the serving of notices deemed appropriate, for example;

Threat to Life Warning Notice – Would be considered for issue to an identified “victim” where it is assessed there is a specific ‘real and immediate’ threat to their safety.

Threat to Life Disruption Notice – A notice is served to an identified individual where it has been assessed there is a ‘real and immediate’ suggestion that the individual is going to be involved in the commission of a serious crime.

Personal Safety Advice Warning Notice – Would be considered where it is assessed there is credible intelligence that a person may be at risk of personal injury.

Crime Disruption Notice – Would be considered for issue to potential perpetrators where there is credible intelligence that persons may be involved in a criminal act.

In response to your request, it is important to ensure that the terminology ‘Osman Warnings’ is interpreted accurately i.e. as a Threat to Life (TTL) warning notice when intelligence exists that there is a viable threat to life.

For absolute clarity on this matter, TTL Warning Notices and Personal Safety Advice Warning Notices are only issued to potential victims who have been fully identified.

Since the 6th of February 2023, the way in which the notices were recorded has changed.

In response to your request the tables below detail numbers of Threat to Life Warning notices issued for the period 1 January 2021 to 27 January 2025.

| Year | Threat to Life Warnings |
| --- | --- |
| 2021 | 20 |
| 2022 | 6 |
| 2023 | 5 |
| 2024 | 26 |
| 1 Jan 2025 – 27 Jan 2025 | 3 |

| Year | Threat to Life Warnings Issued to under 18 |
| --- | --- |
| 2021 | 0 |
| 2022 | 0 |
| 2023 | 0 |
| 2024 | 0 |
| 1 Jan 2025 – 27 Jan 2025 | 0 |

## How many of the threat-to-life warning notices were issued to males and how many were issued to females, if known/recorded

In response to this part of your request, I would advise that this information is not recorded. In terms of Section 17 of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002, 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](https://www.foi.scot/appeal), by [email](mailto:enquiries@foi.scot) 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.