| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 25-0052  Responded to: 21 January 2025 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

## Whether police Scotland have insurance covering their police dogs and police horses.

## Whether this insurance covers Public Liability and also whether it covers injury and medical support for the animals.

I can advise that Police Scotland does not hold the above requested information.

In terms of Section 17 of the Act, this letter represents a formal notice that information is not held.

By way of explanation, I can confirm that Police Scotland does not have insurance covering police dogs or police horses.

By way of further explanation, Police Scotland is primarily a self-insured organization, although it does purchase certain specific types of insurance as directed by the Scottish Government.

It is crucial to consider that as a largely self-insured entity, any claims or liabilities that might otherwise have fallen under a commercial Insurance policy, will instead be covered by the policing budget allocated by the Scottish Government.

The Scottish Police Authority (SPA), a body corporate established under Section 1 of the Police and Fire Reform (Scotland) Act 2012, is subject to the provisions of the Scottish Public Finance Manual (SPFM). The SPFM stipulates that public sector bodies manage risks through a combination of self-insurance, public sector governance frameworks, and commercial insurance only where necessary, ensuring the efficient use of public funds.

For more information, please refer to the Scottish Public Finance Manual:  
<https://www.gov.scot/publications/scottish-public-finance-manual/insurance/insurance/>

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.