| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 25-0134  Responded to: 21 March 2025 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

1. **The number of reported assaults on Police Officers in Scotland from the period of 01 January 2020 to 01 January 2025, including insofar as possible the figures resulting in convictions.**
2. **The number of reported assaults on Police Officers in Greenock and the Sheriffdom of North Strathclyde from the period of 01 January 2020 to 01 January 2025, including insofar as possible the figures resulting in convictions**

First of all, conviction information is not held by Police Scotland and section 17 of the Act therefore applies.

During the period specified in your request, there was a change to the way in which we record assaults against police officers and staff.

From 1 April 2024, new crime classifications were introduced - Common assault of police officer/staff (with injury) and Common assault of police officer/staff (without injury).

Data for that period is held by Police Scotland, but I am refusing to provide it in terms of section 16(1) of the Act on the basis that the section 27(1) exemption applies:

“Information is exempt information if it is held with a view to its being published […] at a date not later than twelve weeks after […] the request for the information is made”.

The information will be published online in the next few weeks, broken down by Local Authority Multi-Member Ward area at - [Crime data - Police Scotland](https://www.scotland.police.uk/about-us/how-we-do-it/crime-data/)

I believe it is reasonable in all the circumstances that the information be withheld from disclosure at this time, and that maintaining the exemption outweighs any public interest in disclosure.

To be of assistance I can provide you with the following data meantime which is for the whole of Scotland:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Recorded Crimes by Classification** | **2024** | **2025\*** |
| Common Assault of police officer/staff (with injury) | 829 | 174 |
| Common Assault of police officer/staff (without injury) | 4,636 | 923 |

2025 data covers the period 1 January to 28 February 2025.  
All statistics are provisional and should be treated as management information.   
Data was extracted from Police Scotland systems and are correct as at 12/03/2025.  
Recorded Crimes are extracted using ‘Date Raised’ and selecting Stats Class Codes '100410' - Common assault of police officer/staff (with injury) and '100411' - Common assault of police officer/staff (without injury).

For the period prior to 2024, the relevant crime classifications were Common Assault of an Emergency Worker, which includes police officers, prison officers, firefighters, paramedics and any other personnel involved in emergency services, and serious assault, which includes any victim, regardless of occupation.

Unfortunately, therefore, I estimate that it would cost well in excess of the current FOI cost threshold of £600 to process your request in relation to that time period as all potentially relevant crime reports would have to be individually assessed for relevance.

I am therefore refusing to provide the information sought in terms of section 12(1) - Excessive Cost of Compliance.

To be of assistance, we may be able to provide some data regarding assaults reported to our People and Development team, as opposed to assaults that were recorded as crimes.

To illustrate, please refer to the SPA Performance Reports available online - [How we are performing - Police Scotland](https://www.scotland.police.uk/about-us/what-we-do/how-we-are-performing/)

For example, page 43 of the [Quarter 3 SPA Performance Report](https://www.scotland.police.uk/spa-media/d5wlktbw/quarter-3-spa-performance-report.docx).

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.