| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 24-2111  Responded to: 1 November 2024 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

**How many serving police dogs do you currently have?**

107 licenced dogs and 39 in training.

**How many police dog handlers do you currently have?**

67

## How many police dog trainers do you currently have?

12

This is made up of 7 full time and 5 part time

## Please confirm the gender split of female and male police dog handlers?

22 Female

45 Male

## Please confirm number of police dogs in your force which have died or been euthanised while still enrolled as a police dog (please include cause of death for each dog) from January 2020 until present.

## The information sought is not held by Police Scotland and section 17 of the Act applies.

We do not maintain these figures.

## How many police dogs have retired from the force since January 2020 until present day? Please include reason for retirement.

The information sought is not held by Police Scotland and section 17 of the Act applies.

We do not maintain these figures.

## How many police dogs have been euthanised as they’re deemed unsuitable for retirement since January 2020 until present day?

The information sought is not held by Police Scotland and section 17 of the Act applies.

We do not maintain these figures.

**How many police dogs have failed their initial training course, and subsequently been re-homed or euthanised since January 2020 until present day?**

The information sought is not held by Police Scotland and section 17 of the Act applies.

We do not maintain these figures.

**What is the yearly expenditure for all police dogs?**

As you have not specified what costs you are looking to have included for this part of your request we have supplied figures for all costs for East, West and North Dog Units as follows:

2021/2022 £4,751,826.00

2022/2023 £4,953,754.00

2023/2024 £5,323,839.00

## Do your police dog handlers undertake canine first aid training? If so, how often are they provided a refresher course?

The answer to this question is, not at present, however this has recently been authorised and will be commencing.

**Are your police dogs supplied with personal protective equipment? If so, please state the equipment provided, brand of the equipment and confirm if it’s personal issue to each serving police dog?**

Currently no personal protective equipment (PPE) is issued to Police dogs apart from ‘boots’ to protect their feet. The dogs normally Ruff Wear Grip Tex boots and are available as personal issue but not all dogs require them

We are looking to improve PPE for the dogs.

**Are your police dogs provided with a direct financial assistance in their retirement from your police force or police crime commissioner?**

No

**How many suspects have been arrested by your force under ‘Finn’s Law’ aka The Animal Welfare (Service Animals) for causing unnecessary suffering to a service animal since 8th June 2019 until present day?**

**How many suspects have been charged by your force under ‘Finn’s Law’ aka The Animal Welfare (Service Animals) for causing unnecessary suffering to a service animal since 8th June 2019 until present day?**

**How many suspects have been convicted by your force under ‘Finn’s Law’ aka The Animal Welfare (Service Animals) for causing unnecessary suffering to a service animal since 8th June 2019 until present day?**

The information sought is not held by Police Scotland and section 17 of the Act applies.

## The Animal Welfare (Service Animals) Act 2019 does not extend to 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.