| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information ResponseOur reference: FOI 23-1627Responded to: 12 July 2023 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

## How long does an officer have to serve before he gets promoted to the next rank, example:- sergeant to inspector.

A qualified officer must serve 2 years in substantive (current rank) before they are eligible to apply for a substantive promotion to the next rank. Actual promotion is based on merit after completing the National Promotion Assessment.

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 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 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.