| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 24-0481  Responded to: xx March 2024 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

## I am officially putting in a request under the Freedom of Information Act to find out a specific piece of information relating to your K9 unit in Edinburgh.

## We recently saw your post about a police dog who helped chase down a suspect relating to a number of burglaries in Edinburgh.

## Our request is as follows - How many individual arrests have police dogs helped with that have been successful in the last year?

Unfortunately, I estimate that it would cost well in excess of the current FOI cost threshold of £600 to process your request. I am therefore refusing to provide the information sought in terms of section 12(1) of the Act - Excessive Cost of Compliance.

Other dog handlers from the West and the North may have been involved in incidents within Edinburgh and we would have to manually review all potentially relevant incidents and crime reports to establish whether there was a police dog from the Edinburgh area involved.

To be of assistance however, I can advise you that during 2023, the handlers based in Edinburgh had significant involvement with 61 arrests / apprehensions. This information only includes incidents where dog handlers have taken a primary role in the arrest and not incidents where they may have been there only in a support capacity.

As you have specifically asked for ‘arrests’, I would further advise that this figure does not include the vast number of missing persons that dog handlers have traced, which makes up a large part of the role, or items of evidence recovered by the dogs.

Furthermore, I would advise that the handlers based in Edinburgh also cover the Lothians and Scottish Borders and at times may attend incidents elsewhere in the east of Scotland, some of the incidents will have occurred in these areas however the information provided relates to the handlers which are based in Edinburgh.

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.