| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 24-0132  Responded to: 12 February 2024 |
| --- | --- |

Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

Please accept our apologies for the delay in responding.

First of all, I would advise you that PCSO has been interpreted as the abbreviation for a Police Community Support Officer. On that basis, section 17 of the Act therefore applies to that part of your request as the information sought is *not held.* Police Scotland do not have Police Community Support Officers.

**For the period 3 March 2018 to 10 January 2024, please could you tell me:**

1. **The number of police officers and PCSOs in your force convicted of a crime;**
2. **For each officer/PCSO listed in your answer to question 1, the type of offence (assault, rape, etc), the date of the offence and the date of conviction;**
3. **The name, date of birth, gender and rank of each convicted officer/PCSO and their status with your force at the date of offence and now (i.e. still serving, suspended, on limited duties, resigned, sacked, etc).**

**For the period 3 March 2021 to 10 January 2024, please could you tell me:**

1. **The number of police officers and PCSOs charged with a criminal offence where the case is yet to conclude (i.e. a trial is yet to take place, plea hearing is yet to be held, etc);**
2. **For each officer/PCSO listed in your answer to question 4, the type of offence that they are charged with (assault, rape, etc) and the date of the alleged offence;**
3. **The name, age, gender and rank of each officer/PCSO charged with an offence and their status with your force both now and when the alleged offence occurred (i.e. still serving, suspended, on limited duties, resigned, sacked, etc).**

The formal disciplinary process for Police Officers is governed by [the Police Service of Scotland (Conduct) Regulations 2014](https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ssi/2014/68/contents/made). The associated [Scottish Government Guidance Document](https://www.gov.scot/binaries/content/documents/govscot/publications/factsheet/2018/04/conduct-and-performance-procedures-police-guidance/documents/police-guidance-conduct-procedures/police-guidance-conduct-procedures/govscot%3Adocument/Police%2BService%2Bof%2BScotland%2B%2528conduct%2529%2Bregulations%2B2014.pdf) provides further information on the process and allegations are categorised in line with our [Standards of Professional Behaviour](https://www.scotland.police.uk/about-us/who-we-are/our-standards-of-professional-behaviour/).

The Police Scotland [Complaints About the Police Standard Operating Procedure (SOP)](https://www.scotland.police.uk/spa-media/lgyddvsi/complaints-about-the-police-sop.docx) outlines how we deal with complaints. Allegations are recorded in accordance with the categories listed at appendices C and D.

Whilst we can produce data on allegations of criminality made against police officers, the course those investigations take, whether leading to charges and/ or on to conviction, is information only accessible by individual review of each case file.

Given several hundred cases would have to be reviewed for each part of your request, 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) - Excessive Cost of Compliance.

To be of assistance, data regarding allegations against police officers can be accessed in our Professional Standards Quarterly Reports - which are available online:

[Publication Library | Scottish Police Authority (spa.police.uk)](https://www.spa.police.uk/publication-library/?committee=Complaints+and+Conduct+Committee)

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.