

Our Ref: IM-FOI-2022-2764  
Date: 24 January 2023



## FREEDOM OF INFORMATION (SCOTLAND) ACT 2002

I refer to your recent request for information which has been handled in accordance with the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002.

For ease of reference, your request is replicated below together with the response.

**To request the number of staffed police stations in Scotland for each of the past ten years up to and including 2022 (as at December 1, 2022).**

**Please send the number broken down by Division.**

The data presented has been extracted from Police Scotland's System to Co-ordination Personnel and Establishment (SCOPE) database.

The data is provided as at 31 March in each year, *except* for the final column which has been provided at 30 November 2022\* in order to capture the closest recorded data.

The data is provided broken down by division, however please note that it is possible that one location can serve more than one division (incl. specialisms not listed separately) and therefore any totalling of the figures may include duplication of locations. Each location is counted once for each division that has officers based at that location (as per SCoPE).

It should also be taken into consideration that although the data provided includes police stations, it also includes any other locations where police officers are based as per SCoPE, for example: airports, ports, schools, etc.

On that basis the data below is provided.

**Table 1: No. of locations Police Officers are based:**

Division	31/03/2015	31/03/2016	31/03/2017	31/03/2018	31/03/2019
<b>A</b> North East	44	45	46	44	40
<b>D</b> Tayside	27	27	26	25	23
<b>N</b> Highlands & Islands	40	38	37	37	36
<b>C</b> Forth Valley	32	29	30	30	28

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<b>E</b> Edinburgh	22	22	21	20	19
<b>J</b> The Lothians & Scottish Borders	33	32	31	30	26
<b>P</b> Fife	20	11	9	11	9
<b>G</b> Greater Glasgow	23	23	23	23	22
<b>K</b> Renfrewshire & Inverclyde	9	9	9	9	8
<b>L</b> Argyll & West Dunbartonshire	23	22	22	19	18
<b>Q</b> Lanarkshire	19	19	19	18	18
<b>U</b> Ayrshire	18	18	18	18	16
<b>V</b> Dumfries & Galloway	15	15	15	14	10
<b>C3</b>	11	10	9	7	6
<b>CSD</b>	41	39	39	31	38
<b>CJSD</b>	21	18	51	55	46
<b>OSD</b>	48	47	49	51	57
<b>PPCW</b>	0	0	0	0	0
<b>B</b> Aberdeenshire & Moray	22	<i>Merged with A Division above</i>			

**Table 1 (continued):**

<b>Division</b>	<b>31/03/2020</b>	<b>31/03/2021</b>	<b>31/03/2022</b>	<b>30/11/2022*</b>
<b>A</b> North East	40	40	40	39
<b>D</b> Tayside	23	23	23	23
<b>N</b> Highlands & Islands	36	36	36	34
<b>C</b> Forth Valley	28	27	27	27
<b>E</b> Edinburgh	19	19	19	19
<b>J</b> The Lothians & Scottish Borders	26	26	26	26
<b>P</b> Fife	9	9	9	9
<b>G</b>	22	22	22	22

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Greater Glasgow				
<b>K</b> Renfrewshire & Inverclyde	8	8	7	7
<b>L</b> Argyll & West Dunbartonshire	18	18	17	16
<b>Q</b> Lanarkshire	18	18	18	18
<b>U</b> Ayrshire	16	16	15	16
<b>V</b> Dumfries & Galloway	10	9	9	9
<b>C3</b>	6	5	5	5
<b>CSD</b>	38	42	46	44
<b>CJSD</b>	46	58	57	53
<b>OSD</b>	57	63	55	51
<b>PPCW</b>	0	0	22	22

Unfortunately differences in the way in which the legacy divisions were structured and any associated record retention policy mean it is not possible to collate this particular national information for the period prior to 31/03/2015.

As such, in terms of Section 17 of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002, this represents a notice that the information requested is not held by Police Scotland.

**Also, if it is known, please send the number of staffed police stations in Scotland anticipated for next year.**

I can advise you that Police Service of Scotland does not hold the information requested by you. In terms of Section 17 of the Act, this letter represents a formal notice that information is not held.

If you require further assistance or are dissatisfied with the way in which Police Scotland has dealt with your request, you are entitled, in the first instance, to request a review of our actions and decisions.

Your request must specify the matter which gives rise to your dissatisfaction and it must be submitted within 40 working days of receiving this response - either by email to [foi@scotland.police.uk](mailto:foi@scotland.police.uk) or by post to Information Management (Disclosure), Police Scotland, Clyde Gateway, 2 French Street, Dalmarnock, G40 4EH.

If you remain dissatisfied following the outcome of that review, you are thereafter entitled to apply to the Office of the Scottish Information Commissioner within six months for a decision. You can apply [online](#), by email to [enquiries@itspublicknowledge.info](mailto:enquiries@itspublicknowledge.info) or by post to Office of the Scottish Information Commissioner, Kinburn Castle, Doubledykes Road, St Andrews, Fife, KY16 9DS.

Should you wish to appeal against the Office of the Scottish Information Commissioner's decision, there is an appeal to the Court of Session on a point of law only.

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As part of our commitment to demonstrate openness and transparency in respect of the information we hold, an anonymised version of this response will be posted to the Police Scotland Freedom of Information [Disclosure Log](#) in seven days' time.