| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 24-0746  Responded to: 15th March 2024 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

## I would like to request the specific legislations governing citizen’s arrest and Use of Force

## To break the question down, a person who is not a constable in Scotland, witnesses a serious offence being committed decides to intervene…

## 1. Under what specific legislation can (s)he arrest/ detain the suspect until a constable assumes responsibility?

## 2. Under what specific legislation can (s)he Use reasonable Force on suspect, if necessary to effect arrest?

## 3. Under what specific legislation can a person act in self-defence?

The information sought is held by Police Scotland, but I am refusing to provide it in terms of section 16(1) of the Act on the basis that the section 25(1) exemption applies:

“Information which the applicant can reasonably obtain other than by requesting it is exempt information”.

The information sought is publicly available: [Citizens arrest · Ask the Scottish Police](https://www.askthe.scottish.police.uk/view-category/?id=b159a670-06f6-eb11-94ef-002248405a51)

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.