| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 23-0679  Responded to: 28 March 2023 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

## For each year between 1 January 2017 and 31 December 2022:

## 1. How many times were Police Scotland officers asked -- either by a member of the public or by any Scottish local authority -- to address a complaint made about a Pitbull or Pitbull-type dog being out of control or behaving aggressively?

## 2. For each complaint made to Police Scotland, what action was taken by Police Scotland?

Having considered your request in terms of the Act, I regret to inform you that I am unable to provide you with the information you have requested, as it would prove too costly to do so within the context of the fee regulations.

As you may be aware the current cost threshold is £600 and I estimate that it would cost well in excess of this amount to process your request.

As such, and in terms of Section 16(4) of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 where Section 12(1) of the Act (Excessive Cost of Compliance) has been applied, this represents a refusal notice for the information sought.

By way of explanation, Police Scotland record crimes using the Scottish Government Justice Department crime classification codes. With regard to your request, offences such as these would be recorded as offences involving dangerous dogs. Therefore the only way to provide an accurate response to your request would be to manually examine each one of these crime reports since 2017 to establish whether the circumstances were relevant to the specifics of your request. There are no relevant markers which allow the automatic retrieval of this level of information.

I can further advise you that there is no specific category that would apply to your question for recording incidents. These would most likely fall under the general classification of animals.

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.