| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information ResponseOur reference: FOI 24-0119Responded to: 23 January 2024 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

## 1) If your force has a stalking advocate in place

## 2) How many stalking advocates the force has, if the answer is more than one.

## 3) If the answer to (1) is yes, when was the advocate(s) was/were put in place

In response. Police Scotland does not have a stalking advocate in the force.

All advocacy and support is provided by external partner agencies.

Tackling Stalking and Harassment is a priority for Police Scotland and we are committed to working with our partners to reduce the harm it causes. A significant focus has been placed on supporting officers and staff to acknowledge the impact Stalking has on victims and deliver a service that effectively brings perpetrators to justice. This has been achieved in close consultation with key internal and external partners including Action Against Stalking, a non-profit organisation, who provides advocacy and support for Stalking victims in Scotland and the Suzy Lamplugh Trust.

Collaborative working is driving change in training content for officers, prompting changes to guidance and protocols. Ensuring the safety of the victim and any other person is a priority for officers responding to reports of Stalking and Harassment. Part of that safety planning will involve officers signposting and/or referring victims to stalking advocacy services. Full details of these agencies can be found at <https://www.scotland.police.uk/advice-and-information/stalking/>

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 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 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.