

# Police Scotland submission of 13 January 2023

## PE1961/C: Make it a specific offence to assault, threaten or abuse a private hire or taxi driver while at work

In relation to your ask for information on the number of threatening and abusive behaviour offences recorded in each year over the past decade, we are able to provide you breach of the peace and threatening or abusive behaviour offences for the last 10 years.

Please see table 1 below for figures:

**Table 1.**

**Title: Recorded Breach of Peace and Threatening or Abusive Behaviour Crimes, Police Scotland<sup>1,2</sup>**

Period: 1st January 2013 - 31st December 2022 (Calendar Years)

Crime/Offence	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Breach of the peace	24 796	17 039	14 616	9 854	7 534	6 298	5 509	3 598	3 408	2 559
Threatening or abusive behaviour	48 181	47 084	47 873	48 614	45 941	42 710	45 078	45 964	43 366	40 024
<b>Total</b>	<b>72 977</b>	<b>64 123</b>	<b>62 489</b>	<b>58 468</b>	<b>53 475</b>	<b>49 008</b>	<b>50 587</b>	<b>49 562</b>	<b>46 774</b>	<b>42 583</b>

All statistics are provisional and should be treated as management information. All data have been extracted from Police Scotland internal systems and are correct as at 9th January 2023.

<sup>1</sup> The Recorded Crimes are extracted using the Date Raised, and then selecting the Stats Class Codes '604702' and '604708'.

<sup>2</sup> Please note, each record would need to be read to confirm the circumstances and the occupation of the victim.

Additionally, you had requested if this data could be broken down by occupation or workplace. Unfortunately we do not currently have within our legacy crime systems reliable occupation data. The reasons for this are provided below:

- (a) Occupation is poorly and inconsistently recorded
- (b) Occupation is a free text field making extraction of robust data challenging and requiring a significant allocation of resources.

With the current rollout of our National Crime system there are improvements within this area going forward. Free text is being mapped to an employment category and occupation where possible (e.g Transport – Taxi Driver) and training guidance is provided for occupation entries.