

1. How many police dogs were there in the force's dog unit for each of the last ten calendar years (2012-2022), broken down by job type. (e.g. General purpose/ explosive detection)

The cost of providing you with the information is above the amount to which we are legally required to respond i.e. the cost of locating and retrieving the information exceeds the 'appropriate level' as stated in the Freedom of Information (Fees and Appropriate Limit) Regulations 2004.

However, to assist, I can advise we currently have 55 operational dog handlers and around 110 operational police dogs.

2. Please list the main breeds used in the totals in question 1. Please list the most commonly used breeds first.

The breeds we currently use are:

General Purpose	Drugs	Explosive Detection	Digital Media
Belgian Malinois	Springer spaniel	Springer spaniel	Cocker spaniel
German Shepherd	Cocker spaniel	Cocker Spaniel	
Dutch Herder	Springerdor	Springerdor	
		Pointer	
		Pointerdor	

3. How many full-time members of staff (trainers, handlers, officers etc) were working in the force's dog unit for each of the years in the same period.

Year	Police Staff	Police Officers	Total
01-Apr-12	9	64	73
01-Apr-13	8	60	68
01-Apr-14	6	58	64
01-Apr-15	9	57	66
01-Apr-16	10	59	69
01-Apr-17	8	59	67
01-Apr-18	10	53	63
01-Apr-19	11	56	67
01-Apr-20	14	55	69
01-Apr-21	15	58	73
01-Apr-22	16	55	71

4. What was the force's total budget for each of these years and how much was allocated to the dog unit.

Financial Year	Net Budget	Budget allocated to Dog Section
2013-14	£556,670,000	£3,815,600
2014-15	£543,556,000	£3,815,100
2015-16	£523,651,000	£3,950,800
2016-17	£527,228,000	£4,296,300
2017-18	£525,940,000	£4,314,600
2018-19	£535,288,000	£4,062,000
2019-20	£569,848,000	£4,264,130
2020-21	£610,639,100	£4,506,200
2021-22	£641,050,400	£4,769,500
2022-23	£678,740,900	£4,823,700

NB Please note the following:-

- All budgets are rounded to the nearest £100
- Our Finance department works in financial years (not calendar years), therefore they are only able to provide the data in this format
- There will be costs held on other budgets in relation to the dog section but as these are part of other central budgets they are not separately identifiable. These may include items relating to IT, Estates and Shared Services costs.

5. Does the force have its own dog breeding unit?

Yes