| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information ResponseOur reference: FOI 23-1682Responded to: xx July 2023 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

## For each of the last three years (27 June 2020 – 26th June 2021, 27th June 2021 – 26th June 2022 and 27th June 2022 – 26th June 2023) can you please provide the following information:

## 1) How many reports did Police Scotland receive of drones illegally operating within the restricted airspace around Glasgow Airport?

## 2) How many reports did Police Scotland receive of drones illegally operating within the restricted airspace around Glasgow Prestwick Airport?

## 3) How many reports did Police Scotland receive of drones illegally operating within the restricted airspace around Edinburgh Airport?

## 4) How many arrests were made as a result of reports for both 1 and 2?

## 5) What other action was taken in respect of 1 and 2 such as fines/drone equipment being confiscated?

Unfortunately, the incident recording system in use within Police Scotland does not have an incident ‘type’ or marker which would facilitate research of this nature.

Similarly with crime reports, crimes in Scotland are recorded in accordance with the Scottish Government Justice Department (SGJD) offence classification codes and, for your request, there is no specific code relating to ‘drone’ offences - any offences are recorded under the wider legislation category relating to ‘aviation offences’.

On that basis 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, the only way to provide an accurate response to your request would be to read through several hundred incidents - an exercise which I estimate would far exceed the cost limit set out in the Fees Regulations.

To illustrate and be of assistance, related information is available on the Police Scotland website via the link below:

[Crime data - Police Scotland](https://www.scotland.police.uk/about-us/how-we-do-it/crime-data/)

Please note that the quarterly data is displayed by recorded/detected and the location is the Multi-Member Ward area (MMW). Use the filter in the ‘Aggregate Crime Classification’ column, with the relevant offence being ‘Aviation legislation’.

Older data from 2013 will also be available shortly.

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.

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