| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 25-0770  Responded to: 07 March 2025 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

## Please state how many instances of illegal killing of foxes (or lethal injuries that led to the fox having to be euthanised by veterinarians) have been reported to Police Scotland during the years of 2022, 2023, and 2024.

## For each incident, please provide (1) a description as to what happened, (2) when the incident was reported, and (3) what the outcome was (e.g. did it result in any prosecutions or criminal convictions).

## For each incident, could you also specify which illegal method was used (e.g. snares, air weapons that did not kill the fox immediately, spring traps, and others as stated here: [https://www.gov.uk/guidance/foxes-moles-and-mink-how-to-protect-your-property-from-damage#illegal-pest-control-methods](https://gbr01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.gov.uk%2Fguidance%2Ffoxes-moles-and-mink-how-to-protect-your-property-from-damage%23illegal-pest-control-methods&data=05%7C02%7Cfoi%40scotland.police.uk%7Ce74208ae489c4c052f6808dd5814791d%7C6795c5d3c94b497a865c4c343e4cf141%7C0%7C0%7C638763567170001956%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJFbXB0eU1hcGkiOnRydWUsIlYiOiIwLjAuMDAwMCIsIlAiOiJXaW4zMiIsIkFOIjoiTWFpbCIsIldUIjoyfQ%3D%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=%2BXqa6VM2%2FFkeGM%2BiGn0t%2FcSne3Gh3C8oSv5tw9ODAMY%3D&reserved=0)).

## Please provide the information in the form of an Excel sheet, broken down by year and month.

There is no Scottish crime classification relevant to your request that covers the specific behaviour described in your request. Additionally, we cannot search wildlife crime reports by nature of animal(s) involved. As such, I estimate that it would cost well in excess of the current FOI cost threshold of £600 to process your request. I am therefore refusing to provide the information sought in terms of section 12(1) of the Act - Excessive Cost of Compliance.

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.