| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 25-0066  Responded to: 21 March 2025 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

## How many arrests have been made in financial years 2022/23, 23/24 and 24/25 in connection with pyrotechnic offences committed at football matches?

Crimes in Scotland are recorded in accordance with the Scottish Government Justice Department crime classifications and the relevant classification in terms of your request is ‘Keeping and Supply of Explosives’.

In researching your request, we have reviewed all detected crimes under that classification for relevance to the possession of pyrotechnics at football matches (detected crimes are those where an accused has been identified and there exists a sufficiency of evidence under Scots Law to justify consideration of criminal proceedings).

I would stress that is a highly subjective process, based on reference to football grounds specifically or, in the absence of location information in the MO, reference to a designated sporting event.

References to pyrotechnics, flares and smoke canisters have all been deemed relevant.

Such research has only been possible due to the relatively low number of crime reports for the period.

The table below details the results of that analysis:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Year** | **Detected Crimes** |
| 2022/23 | 0 |
| 2023/24 | 30 |
| 2024/25 (to date) | 29 |

All statistics are provisional and should be treated as management information.   
Data was extracted from Police Scotland systems and are correct as at 25/02/2025.

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](https://www.foi.scot/appeal), by [email](mailto:enquiries@foi.scot) 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.