| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 23-1829  Responded to: 08 August 2023 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

## Follow up to 23-1682

## Would it be possible for you to do a search for 'drone' and 'edinburgh airport' on your systems for example and see what comes back?

## Also, I know you said you would find researchign this cost prohibitive. With this in mind, can you confirm how many 'aviation offences' are currently on the system for the last three years?

In response, your original request was interpreted as recorded crimes.

Please be advised that ‘aviation legislation’ crime data is publicly available.

As such, in terms of Section 16 of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002, I am refusing to provide you with the information sought. Section 16 requires Police Scotland when refusing to provide such information because it is exempt, to provide you with a notice which:

(a) states that it holds the information,   
(b) states that it is claiming an exemption,   
(c) specifies the exemption in question and   
(d) states, if that would not be otherwise apparent, why the exemption applies.

I can confirm that Police Scotland holds the information that you have requested and the exemption that I consider to be applicable is set out at Section 25(1) of the Act:

*“Information which the applicant can reasonably obtain other than by requesting it under Section 1(1) is exempt information”*

The information you are seeking is available on the Police Scotland website, via the following link: [Crime data - Police Scotland](https://www.scotland.police.uk/about-us/how-we-do-it/crime-data/) – Group 6.

To illustrate the difficulties with your request, there are 117 crimes recorded in 2021/22 alone.

I can further confirm that keyword searches are not currently possible in relation to crime report data. Police Scotland continues to operate a number of crime recording systems. Whilst robust statistical analysis can be made of the data held on each of our systems, they are not, at present, designed to enable the retrieval of the highly specific information as per your request.

To be of assistance, the above link shows data at a multi member ward level.

There are however, no markers on any of the crime systems that would allow us to search for a crime taking place within restricted airspace.

You may wish to cross refer the multi member ward boundaries with your own knowledge of airspace: <https://boundaries.scot/boundary-maps>

Additionally, we could provide *incident*​data as our STORM incident recording system does have a classification for 'Drone/UAS/UAV incident' but again, we cannot search based on airspace.

To give you an idea of the numbers involved there were 327 incidents recorded across Scotland in the 6 weeks or so between 1 June and 18 July 2023.

If you provide a list of airport addresses we may be able to provide you with data on how many of these incidents were logged within a particular radius of each address but given the numbers involved, any further research is likely to be cost prohibitive.​

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.