

Ref: HQ18221

23.11.2018

Dear

Thank you for your FOI request dated 22 October 2018, under the terms of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002. This gives a statutory deadline for responding by 19 November 2018. Please accept my apologies for the delay in responding to you. For reference I have copied your request below. You asked for:

Request for Information

1. Data on each time a drone was reported being used in or around a HMP Perth or HMP Castle Huntly in the last three financial years and up to the most recent date possible.
2. The date that its use was reported, at which prison and a brief summary of what happened during the incident.
3. If the drone – or anything the drone was carrying – was recovered, please provide a list of its cargo.
4. State if any action was taken by the prison as a result of the reported use of a drone.

I have now completed my search for the information you request, with the information detailed below.

The tables below provide a breakdown of incidents linked to drones or UAVs recorded on SPS' Prison Records System for HMP Perth and HMP Open Estate, broken down by financial year.

**FY April 2018 to March 2019**

No incidents recorded as of search date 22/10/18.

**FY April 2017 to March 2018**

No incidents recorded for HMP Open Estate

Estab	Date	Detail	Recovery	Action
HMP Perth	22/09/2017	Drone found within the grounds	Drone with package that contained; 5 mobile telephones phones, 128 of various white tablets, 2.4 grams of herbal cannabis and 60.7	Reported to Police Scotland

			grams cannabis resin.	
HMP Perth	25/09/2017	Drone found within the grounds. CCTV reviewed to identify area it had been in and cells searches carried out.	Drone recovered. Package recovered from a cell search contained; 2 mobile telephone.	Reported to Police Scotland

### **FY April 2016 to March 2017**

No incidents recorded for HMP Open Estate

<b>Estab</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Detail</b>	<b>Recovery</b>	<b>Action</b>
HMP Perth	01/04/2016	Drone spotted on roof of building within perimeter.	Drone	Reported to Police Scotland
HMP Perth	10/05/2016	Drone observed to be flying over establishment, before moving on.	Nil	Reported to Police Scotland
HMP Perth	30/06/2016	Drone observed to be flying in the vicinity of establishment.	Nil	Reported to Police Scotland
HMP Perth	25/08/2016	Member of public reported that a drone was observed in the area of the establishment. No visible sighting was noted by the SPS.	Nil	Reported to Police Scotland
HMP Perth	18/09/2016	Drone observed to be flying in the vicinity of establishment.	Nil recovered by SPS, Police Scotland attended and recovered a drone, iPad and package containing a mobile phone recovered from a vehicle in the vicinity of the establishment.	Reported to Police Scotland
HMP Perth	19/12/2016	Drone observed to be flying over establishment, before moving on.	Nil	Reported to Police Scotland

I hope this fully answers your request, however if you are unhappy with this response to your request, you may ask us to carry out an internal review, by writing to The Chief Executive, Calton House, 5 Redheughs Rigg, Edinburgh, EH12 9HW.

Your request should explain why you wish a review to be carried out, and should be made within 40 working days of receipt of this letter, and we will reply within 20 working days of receipt.

If you are not satisfied with the result of the review, you then have the right to make a formal complaint to the Scottish Information Commissioner.

Yours faithfully