

Our Ref: HQ15136

Mr [REDACTED]

14th October 2015

Dear Mr Ellison,

Thank you for your FOI request dated 17th September 2015 which was received by us on the 17th September 2015. This gave a statutory deadline for responding of 15th October 2015 under the terms of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002.

Your request was for:

- 1) How many attempts were there (broken down by prison for 2014 and 2015) to infiltrate Scottish prisons using 'drones' or UAVs (Unmanned Aerial Vehicles) You further requested that information in request 1 be broken down into prison establishment and information in request to be broken down by establishment, including the name of the social networking site that was shut down.
- 2) In each case, please state what, if anything was carried by the drone and whether or not the drone and/or items were recovered by prison staff.
- 3) Please also detail any reports made by prison staff of drones seen hovering over SPS prisons. These details should include date of report, prison name, a summary of the report, and an outcome of the report.

Response: Following a search of our paper and electronic records, I have established that the information you require is not held by the Scottish Prison Service. The Scottish Prison Service is aware of the potential for drones/quad-copters to be used illegally and discussions are on-going as to the potential threat.

I am sorry we are unable to assist with your enquiry. 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 sincerely

Head of Corporate Affairs
Scottish Prison Service Headquarters