



HEADQUARTERS
 One Lochside
 1 Lochside Avenue
 Edinburgh
 EH12 9DJ

Our Ref: HQ24244

7 January 2025

Dear

Thank you for your request dated 4 December 2024 under the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 (FOI(S)A).

For reference, you requested:

RFI 1: "In each year since 2023, including 2024 to date, how many drones have been detected flying into prisons in Scotland. Please break this down by prison."

RFI 2: "In relation to each Q1 please provide as much detail as possible on each incident. E.g. what the drone was carrying, what action was taken etc."

We have now completed our search for the information you requested.

RFI 1 & 2 Response: Please see tables below:

2023				
Month	Establishment	Drone Recovered	Contents Recovered	Contents
January	HMP Edinburgh	No	No	N/A
February	HMP Edinburgh	No	Yes	Mobile Telephones, SIM Cards, Charging Cables, Brown Resin, Herbal Matter, Paper Brown gel
February	HMP Edinburgh	No	Yes	Paper, Tobacco, Cigarette Papers, Resin, White Powder, Granule-like Powder
February	HMP Perth	No	Yes	Mobile Telephones
February	HMP Perth	No	Yes	Brown Resin, Herbal Cannabis, White Pills, Tobacco, Smoking Papers, Mobile Telephones, Sim Cards, Charging Cables, Ceramic Blades
February	HMP Perth	No	No	N/A
March	HMP Perth	Yes	No	N/A
March	HMP Edinburgh	No	No	N/A
March	HMP Perth	Yes	No	N/A
March	HMP Edinburgh	No	No	N/A

March	HMP Edinburgh	Yes	Yes	White Powder, Mobile Telephones, Charging Cables, Vapes, Brown Resin
March	HMP Barlinnie	No	No	N/A
March	HMP Barlinnie	Yes	No	N/A
April	HMP Edinburgh	No	No	N/A
April	HMP Barlinnie	No	No	N/A
April	HMP Inverness	No	No	N/A
May	HMP Barlinnie	No	No	N/A
May	HMP Perth	No	No	N/A
May	HMP Perth	No	No	N/A
May	HMP Low Moss	No	No	N/A
May	HMP Edinburgh	No	Yes	Mobile Telephones, SIM Cards, Charging Cables, Herbal Matter, Tobacco. Resin, Cigarette Papers, Battery, White Substance
May	HMP Glenochil	No	No	N/A
May	HMP Barlinnie	No	No	N/A
May	HMP Perth	No	No	N/A
May	HMP Barlinnie	No	No	N/A
May	HMP Barlinnie	No	No	N/A
May	HMP Barlinnie	No	No	N/A
June	HMP Edinburgh	No	Yes	White Powder, Screwdriver and Fittings, Vape, Mobile Telephones, Charging Cable, Brown Resin, Grey rock substance, Cream rock substance, White rock substance
June	HMP Edinburgh	No	Yes	Brown oil, Tobacco, Lighters, Cigarette Papers, Tablets, Powders, Substances
June	HMP Perth	No	No	N/A
June	HMP Perth	No	No	N/A
July	HMP Perth	Yes	Yes	Mobile Telephones, SIM Cards, Charging Cables, Blue Tablets
July	HMP Barlinnie	No	No	N/A
July	HMP Barlinnie	No	No	N/A
July	HMP Barlinnie	No	No	N/A
July	HMP Barlinnie	No	No	N/A
July	HMP Barlinnie	No	No	N/A
July	HMP Barlinnie	No	No	N/A
July	HMP Edinburgh	Yes	No	N/A
August	HMP Barlinnie	No	Yes	Blue Tablets, White tablets, Cigarette papers, Lighters, White Powder, Mobile Telephones, Charging Cables
August	HMP Edinburgh	No	No	N/A
August	HMP Low Moss	No	No	N/A
August	HMP Edinburgh	No	No	N/A

August	HMP Barlinnie	No	No	N/A
August	HMP Edinburgh	No	Yes	Sim Cards, Charging Cables, Wifi Enablers, Brown Resin, Granular Substance, Yellow Rock Substance, Pink Powder
August	HMP Barlinnie	No	No	N/A
August	HMP Barlinnie	No	Yes	Brown Substance, Green Substance, White Tablets, White Substance, Brown Resin, Yellow Resin, Blue Tablets, Lighter, Vape Capsules, Super Glue, Prizing Tools, Tobacco, Edibles, Cigarette Papers, Screwdriver, Pipe
August	HMP Low Moss	No	No	N/A
August	HMP Edinburgh	Yes	Yes	Brown Resin, White Pills, Screwdriver, Tweezers, Cable, Wifi Modems, Remote Control
September	HMP Edinburgh	No	No	N/A
September	HMP Low Moss	No	No	N/A
September	HMP Barlinnie	No	No	N/A
September	HMP Edinburgh	No	No	N/A
September	HMP Low Moss	No	No	N/A
October	HMP Low Moss	No	No	N/A
October	HMP Glenochil	No	No	N/A
October	HMP Barlinnie	No	No	N/A
October	HMP Barlinnie	No	Yes	Passed to Police Scotland
October	HMP Greenock	No	Yes	Mobile Telephones, Powders, Tablets, Tabs
November	Lilias Centre	No	No	N/A
November	HMP Edinburgh	No	No	N/A
November	HMP Edinburgh	No	No	N/A
December	HMP Glenochil	No	No	N/A
December	HMP Perth	No	No	N/A
December	HMP Perth	No	No	N/A
December	HMP Edinburgh	Yes	Yes	Mobile Telephones, Charging Cables, SIM Cards, White Powder, Beige Substance, Green Herbal Matter, Pills
December	HMP Edinburgh	No	No	N/A

2024				
Month	Establishment	Drone Recovered	Contents Recovered	Contents
January	HMP Edinburgh	No	No	N/A
January	HMP Edinburgh	No	No	N/A
January	HMP Edinburgh	Yes	Yes	Mobile Telephones, SIM Cards, Mobile Charging

				Cables, Pills, Powder, Beige Putty
January	HMP Edinburgh	No	No	N/A
January	HMP Edinburgh	No	No	N/A
January	HMP Edinburgh	Yes	Yes	Mobile Telephones, SIM Cards, Mobile Charging Cables, Pills, Powder, Lighters, Orange Gel, Brown Putty, A4 Paper, Brown Resin, Herbal Matter, White Powder, White Substance
January	HMP Edinburgh	No	No	N/A
February	HMP Edinburgh	No	No	N/A
March	HMP Barlinnie	Yes	Yes	Mobile Telephones, SIM Cards, Mobile Charging Cables, Earphones, Resin, Cream Powder, Tobacco, Cigarette Papers, Vape Capsules
March	HMP Barlinnie	Yes	Yes	Mobile Telephone, Pills, Unidentified Soaked Material
March	HMP Barlinnie	Yes	No	N/A
March	HMP Barlinnie	Yes	Yes	Provided to Police Scotland prior to examination
March	HMP Barlinnie	No	Yes	Mobile Telephones, White Powder, Unknown Substances
April	HMP Barlinnie	No	No	N/A
April	HMP Barlinnie	No	No	N/A
May	HMP Edinburgh	No	No	N/A
May	HMP Barlinnie	No	Yes (subsequent)	Mobile Telephones, Mobile Charging Cable, Unknown Substances
May	HMP Barlinnie	No	Yes (subsequent)	Mobile Telephones, SIM Cards, Mobile Charging Cables, Tobacco, Cigarette Papers, Tablets, Pink Powder, Amber Substance, Green buds, Brown Resin, Brown Substance, White Substance, White Substance, Tabs, Beige Substance
May	HMP Edinburgh	No	No	N/A
May	HMP Barlinnie	Yes	Yes (subsequent)	Mobile Telephone, Lighters, Unknown Substance, Vapes
May	HMP Edinburgh	No	No	N/A
June	HMP Low Moss	No	No	N/A
June	HMP Barlinnie	Yes	Yes	Mobile Telephones, Block Substance, Capsules, White Powder, Tablets, Brown Paste, Screwdriver Heads, Vape Capsules
June	HMP Addiewell	No	Yes (subsequent)	Mobile Telephone
July	HMP Barlinnie	No	No	N/A

July	HMP Perth	No	Yes (subsequent)	Mobile Telephones, SIM Cards, White Powder, Syringes and Needles, Mobile Charging Cables, Screwdrivers, Stanley Knives, Sharp, pointed carbon fibre "tube" thought to be a part of a bike frame, Steroids, Paper, USB memory stick, Multifit cycle spanner, Tablets, Brown resin, White substance, Brown substance, Brown substance
July	HMP Inverness	No	No	N/A
August	HMP Addiewell	No	Yes	Mobile Telephones, USB Microchip, SIM Cards, Mobile Charging Cables, Yellow Paste, White Powder, Testosterone, Resin, White Tablets, Unconfirmed substance, Blue Tablets
August	HMP Low Moss	No	No	N/A
August	HMP Inverness	No	No	N/A
August	HMP Edinburgh	No	No	N/A
August	HMP Barlinnie	No	No	N/A
August	HMP Greenock	Yes	No	N/A
August	HMP Barlinnie	No	No	N/A
August	HMP Edinburgh	No	Yes	Ceramic Blades, Lighter, Mobile Telephones, Charging Cables, SIM Cards, Yellow Pills, White Powder, Grey Substance, Brown Powder, Cigarettes, Metal Mesh, Cigarette Papers, Brown Resin, Pink Substance, Blue and White Tablets, Cartoon Tabs
August	HMP Edinburgh	No	Yes (subsequent)	Mobile Telephones, Charging Cable, Powder, Storage Device, Steroids, Lock Back Knife
August	HMP Edinburgh	No	No	N/A
August	HMP Edinburgh	No	No	N/A
August	HMP Edinburgh	No	Yes	Pills, Blue and White Tabs, Cartoon Tabs, Steroids, White Powder, Brown Powder, Beige Putty, Charging Cables, Mobile Telephones, SIM Cards, Headphones
August	HMP Barlinnie	No	No	N/A
August	HMP Barlinnie	No	No	N/A
August	HMP Barlinnie	No	No	N/A
September	HMP Barlinnie	No	No	N/A
September	HMP Barlinnie	No	No	N/A

September	HMP Barlinnie	Yes	Yes	Provided to Police Scotland prior to examination
September	HMP Barlinnie	No	Yes	White Powder, Resin Substance, Orange Powder
September	HMP Barlinnie	Yes	Yes	Pills, Tobacco, Brown Substance, Mobile Telephones, Airpods
September	HMP Barlinnie	No	No	N/A
September	HMP Edinburgh	No	No	N/A
September	HMP Perth	No	Yes (subsequent)	Mobile Telephones, SIM Cards, Charging Cables, Beige Substance
September	HMP Perth	No	Yes (subsequent)	Provided to Police Scotland prior to examination
September	HMP Edinburgh	Yes	Yes	Tablets, Capsules, White crystal, Ceramic Blade, Mobile Telephones, Cigarettes, Matches, SIM Cards
October	HMP Barlinnie	No	No	N/A
October	HMP Barlinnie	No	No	N/A
October	HMP Edinburgh	No	Yes (subsequent)	Mobile Telephones, SIM Cards, Beige Substance, Yellow Tablets
October	HMP Barlinnie	No	No	N/A
October	HMP Barlinnie	No	No	N/A
October	HMP Edinburgh	Yes	Yes	Police Scotland recovered items
October	HMP Barlinnie	No	No	N/A
November	HMP Edinburgh	Yes	No	N/A
November	HMP Shotts	No	No	N/A
November	HMP Edinburgh	No	Yes	Needles, Syringes, White Powder
November	HMP Barlinnie	Yes	Yes	Provided to Police Scotland prior to examination
November	HMP Inverness	No	No	N/A
December	HMP Barlinnie	No	No	N/A

All incidents of drone recoveries, and unauthorised articles recovered assessed as being linked to introduction via drone are reported to Police Scotland.

This concludes our response to your request.

If you are unhappy with this response to your request, you may ask us to conduct an internal review, by writing to The Chief Executive, One Lochside, 1 Lochside Avenue, Edinburgh, EH12 9DJ. Your request should explain why you wish a review to be conducted and should be made within forty working days of receipt of this letter, and we will reply within twenty 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

Freedom of Information Manager