| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 23-3214  Responded to: 12 January 2024 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

## To ask, in the past five years, how many reports Police Scotland has received about unidentified flying objects (UFOs), unidentified anomalous phenomena (UAPs), aliens or spaceships.

## If possible, could this be broken down by i) year ii) geographical area and iii) detail of action taken following the call.

Having considered your request in terms of the above Act, I regret to inform you that I am unable to provide you with the information you have requested, as it would prove too costly to do so within the context of the fee regulations.

As you may be aware the current cost threshold is £600 and I estimate that it would cost well in excess of this amount to process your request.

As such, and in terms of Section 16(4) of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 where Section 12(1) of the Act (Excessive Cost of Compliance) has been applied, this represents a refusal notice for the information sought.

By way of explanation, whilst incidents are categorised, there is no specific category which relates to the type of incident referred to in your request.

As such, the only way to provide an accurate response to your request would be to individually examine every potentially relevant report made to Police Scotland for the last 5 years for any mention of UFO’s or similar terminology.

Given the thousands of reports which would require to be assessed, this is an exercise which I estimate would far exceed the cost limit set out in the Fees Regulations.

To assist, you may wish to search our [Disclosure Log](http://www.scotland.police.uk/access-to-information/freedom-of-information/disclosure-log) using some key words or phrases e.g. ‘UFO’ to identify any previous responses on this subject matter.

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.