| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 24-3249  Responded to: xx January 25 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

## Provide a full inventory of drones that the police force has access to, storing the data in a table disaggregated using the following fields;

**1. Drone manufacturer / Model**

**2. Technical capabilities**

**3. Cost**

**4. Conditions of usage; is it owned, leased, borrowed, etc. If it isn't owned by the police force, please share who the owner is**

**5. List of additional payloads attached to the drone; disaggregated into the four fields above.**

In response to your request, I can confirm that Police Scotland currently use drones to support a variety of policing operations, including missing person searches, major incidents and events, armed policing and public order operations as well as fire investigation and crime scene analysis.

This response is provided in two parts:

In terms of those drones utilised by armed policing, I regret to inform you that I am refusing to provide you with any details.

The information sought is held by Police Scotland, but I am refusing to provide it in terms of section 16(1) of the Act on the basis that the following exemptions apply:

**Section 35(1)(a)&(b) – Law Enforcement**

Information is exempt information if its disclosure under this Act would or would be likely to prejudice substantially the prevention or detection of crime and the apprehension or prosecution of offenders. Disclosure of the specific details and capability of those drones would highlight asset resources and capabilities. Revealing this information would substantially weaken the effective use of the availability of such resources with a corresponding risk to law enforcement and to the safety of both the public and officers. This is a non-absolute exemption and requires the application of the public interest test.

**Section 39(1) – Health and Safety**

The release of this information would circumvent the efficient and effective provision of law enforcement by the police service for the reasons described above. This would in turn increase the risk to the personal safety of individuals and to the safety of the police officers responding to incidents. This is a non-absolute exemption and requires the application of the public interest test.

## Public Interest Test

I recognise that public awareness would favour a disclosure as it would contribute to the public debate surrounding the overall nature of unmanned aircraft resources available for deployment by the Police. I would, however, contend that the efficient/effective conduct of the service and public safety favours retention of the information as it cannot be in the public interest to release information that would prejudice law enforcement or which is likely to have an adverse impact upon public safety.

In terms of the remainder, the following information can be provided:

Inventory Item A:

**Drone Manufacturer / Model:** DJI Phantom 4 (x 4) NB 3 were originally purchased in 2017 and are now used purely for training – a fourth aircraft was received from the PF having been forfeited in an enquiry where it was illegally used, it is also now a training aircraft

**Technical capabilities:** The information sought is publicly available – please see the manufacturers manual online for details: [Support for Phantom 4 - DJI](https://www.dji.com/uk/support/product/phantom-4)

The information is therefore held by Police Scotland, but I am refusing to provide it in terms of section 16(1) of the Act on the basis that the section 25(1) exemption applies: “Information which the applicant can reasonably obtain other than by requesting it […] is exempt information”.

**Cost:** £1352.12 each including additional batteries and chargers

**Conditions of usage**: owned by Police Scotland

**List of additional payloads attached to the drone**: None. Section 17 (Information Not Held) applies

Inventory Item B:

**Drone Manufacturer / Model:** DJI Mini 2 (x 4)

**Technical capabilities:** The information sought is publicly available – please see the manufacturers manual online for details: [DJI Mini 2 SE – DJI Hasselblad](https://dji-retail.co.uk/collections/dji-mini-2-se)

The information is therefore held by Police Scotland, but I am refusing to provide it in terms of section 16(1) of the Act on the basis that the section 25(1) exemption applies: “Information which the applicant can reasonably obtain other than by requesting it […] is exempt information”.

**Cost:** £1213.35 each including additional batteries and chargers

**Conditions of usage:** owned by Police Scotland

**List of additional payloads attached to the drone:** None. Section 17 (Information Not Held) applies

Inventory Item C:

**Drone Manufacturer / Model:** DJI M300 (x 1)

**Technical capabilities:** The information sought is publicly available – please see the manufacturers manual online for details: [M300\_RTK\_User\_Manual\_EN\_v4.0.pdf](https://dl.djicdn.com/downloads/matrice-300/20230518UM/M300_RTK_User_Manual_EN_v4.0.pdf)

The information is therefore held by Police Scotland, but I am refusing to provide it in terms of section 16(1) of the Act on the basis that the section 25(1) exemption applies: “Information which the applicant can reasonably obtain other than by requesting it […] is exempt information”.

**Cost:** Zero cost – Warranty return. Section 17 (Information Not Held) applies

**Conditions of usage:** owned by Police Scotland

**List of additional payloads attached to the drone:** H20t camera – zero cost warranty return and owned by Police Scotland

Inventory Item D:

**Drone Manufacturer / Model:** Model – DJI M30t (x 5)

**Technical capabilities:** The information sought is publicly available – please see the manufacturers manual online for details: [Matrice30\_Series\_User\_Manual\_V1.0\_EN.pdf](https://dl.djicdn.com/downloads/matrice-30-series/20220426/Matrice30_Series_User_Manual_V1.0_EN.pdf)

The information is therefore held by Police Scotland, but I am refusing to provide it in terms of section 16(1) of the Act on the basis that the section 25(1) exemption applies: “Information which the applicant can reasonably obtain other than by requesting it […] is exempt information”.

**Cost:** £14,425.80 each Excluding VAT – this is for a complete system including additional batteries, charger and accessories including cones, SD cards and servicing

**Conditions of usage:** owned by Police Scotland

**List of additional payloads attached to the drone:** CZI LP12 Searchlight and Speaker at a cost of £1,665.83 each, both owned by Police Scotland

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.