

## Public

Ref: FOI/25/150

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Dear requester

### Request for Information

Thank you for your request for information which we received on 22 October 2025.

Your request has been considered under the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 (EIR)

### Request

You asked us:

*I am now clarifying my request to ensure it is clear and within a manageable scope.*

*Under the Environmental Information Regulations 2004, I would like to request the following:*

#### *1. Curtailment and Constraint (Balancing) Payments*

*For wind generation units (Balancing Mechanism Units, BMUs) located in Scotland:*

- The total annual cost of accepted bids (constraint payments) made to Scottish wind BMUs for each calendar year from 2018 to 2023 inclusive.*
- The total annual MWh volume of accepted bid actions (curtailments) for the same Scottish wind BMUs, for each year from 2018 to 2023 inclusive.*

*I am happy for this data to be provided aggregated across all Scottish wind BMUs (i.e. not broken down by individual wind farm). But ideally it would be.*

*If available, please also provide or point to the published datasets or reports from which this information can be derived, such as relevant extracts from the Monthly Balancing Services Summary (MBSS) or any other NESO datasets.*

*If this narrowed scope is still too wide, please provide the closest available aggregated figures.*

## Our response

We confirm that we hold information in scope of your request.

Please find below a table of the data NESO holds on accepted bid costs and volumes for wind Balancing Mechanism Units (BMUs) in Scotland for each calendar year from 2018 to 2023.

YEAR	VOLUME_GWH total volume of accepted bids	ACTION_COST (£m) sum(volume x bid price)
2018	-1,478GWh	£105m
2019	-1,678GWh	£120m
2020	-3,146GWh	£229m
2021	-2,038GWh	£127m
2022	-2,992GWh	£178m
2023	-3,495GWh	£248m
Grand Total	-14,827GWh	£1,006m

The accepted bid costs and volumes for individual wind BMUs in Scotland for each calendar year from 2018 to 2023 are contained in the csv file attached with this response.

This concludes our response to your request.

## Advice and assistance

For information on the Balancing Mechanism please see this webpage: [What is the Balancing Mechanism? | National Energy System Operator.](#)

The Balancing and Settlement Code (BSC) is a multi-party legal framework that underpins the electricity trading arrangements in Great Britain. Information about the BSC is available here: [About Balancing and Settlement Code \(BSC\) – Elexon BSC.](#)

Elexon administers the BSC on behalf of the industry and is responsible for:

- Collecting and comparing data on forecasted vs actual energy use
- Calculating payments for imbalances
- Managing compliance with the BSC rules
- Supporting market entry and exit
- Facilitating change and innovation within the Code framework

Elexon routinely publishes Balancing Mechanism data for each BM Unit: [Balancing Mechanism data by BMU view | Insights Solution](#). Should you have any technical queries about this data, you may wish to contact Elexon's support service: [Elexon Support Homepage – Elexon Support](#).

### **Next steps**

If you are dissatisfied with our handling of your request, you can ask us to review our response. If you want us to carry out a review, please let us know within 40 working days and quote the reference number at the top of this letter. You can find our procedure here: [Freedom of Information and Environmental Information Regulations | National Energy System Operator](#). The ICO's website also provides guidance on the internal review process: [What to do if you are dissatisfied with the response | ICO](#).

If you are still dissatisfied after our internal review, you can complain to the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO). You should make complaints to the ICO within six weeks of receiving the outcome of an internal review. The easiest way to lodge a complaint is through their website: [www.ico.org.uk/foicomplaints](http://www.ico.org.uk/foicomplaints). Alternatively, they can be contacted at: Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, SK9 5AF.

Thank you for your interest in the work of the National Energy System Operator (NESO).

Regards,

The Information Rights Team, National Energy System Operator (NESO)