Freedom of Information request ref 01/FOI/26/4143
We received your request on the 08/04/2026.

Request

You asked us:

Fare evasion prosecutions
How many prosecutions were there of which you have any records in each of the last 6 yearlong periods ending on April 1.
Alternatively, if more convenient, then please simply use the last six full calendar years (2020,21,22,23,24,25)?

We have handled your request under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA)

Our response:

There is no specific offence, or BTP crime group of 'fare evasion'. The nearest equivalent is BTP Business Force Crime Group 10B: Fraud: Less Serious which would include low level fare evasion.

Many such infringements would be dealt with by train operating companies who may issue penalty fares or prosecute offenders themselves. Crimes reported to the police may be solved by methods other than prosecution. The table below shows offences recorded under crime group 10B and resulted with an outcome which indicates a subsequent prosecution (outcomes 1 and 1A in England and Wales, or outcomes DET1 - DET5 in Scotland).

It should be noted that the time period specified includes time covered by the Covid 19 pandemic and lockdowns which significantly affected passenger footfall and recorded crime numbers on the railway network.

Outcome	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26
1: Charged	102	64	47	77	72	72
1: Summonsed / Postal requisition	227	126	123	102	99	72
1A Alternate Offence Charged				1	2	
1A Alternate Offence summonsed / postal requisition		1				
DET1 Accused charged & report sent to the Procurator Fiscal	17	9	10	8	8	8
DET2 Accused charged & released on a written undertaking to appear at court	1	1	1	1	1	1
DET4 Accused not charged – evidence available & warrant craved report submitted						1
DET5 Accused charged and detained in custody for court			3	2	4	2