

Our Ref: **FOI HQ16 133**

03 October 2016

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your request dated 5 September 2016 under the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 (FOISA). That gives us a statutory deadline of 03 October 2016 for responding. For reference, I have copied your request below. You asked for;

1. the number of violent incidents in each of the last five years, broken down by prison establishment?
2. the number of injuries to prisoners as a result of violent incident in each of the last five years, broken down by prison establishment.
3. the number of injuries to prison staff as a result of violent incidents in each of the last five years, broken down by prison establishment.

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

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION 1

We do endeavour to provide information wherever possible. The way in which incident information is recorded within the Scottish Prison Service does not allow us to provide you with the exact information that you request as that information is not held. For example, we do not record violent incidents, however we do record serious assaults. The tables below provide a breakdown of prisoner on prisoner and prisoner on staff serious assaults across the SPS estate for the last five years, broken down per establishment.

<b>Prisoner Assaults (includes fights)- Serious</b>	<b>2015/16</b>	<b>2014/15</b>	<b>2013/14</b>	<b>2012/13</b>	<b>2011/12</b>
<b>Aberdeen</b>	0	0	2	2	2
<b>Addiewell</b>	6	5	6	6	5
<b>Barlinnie</b>	6	7	12	8	5
<b>Cornton Vale</b>	1	0	0	1	1
<b>Dumfries</b>	0	1	0	4	3
<b>Edinburgh</b>	9	7	7	7	12
<b>Glenochil</b>	4	8	6	9	9
<b>Grampian</b>	5	3	0	0	0
<b>Greenock</b>	1	0	0	4	0
<b>Inverness</b>	2	1	1	0	2
<b>Kilmarnock</b>	6	4	4	3	6
<b>Low Moss</b>	10	16	9	15	0
<b>Open Estate</b>	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Perth</b>	13	7	7	5	9
<b>Peterhead</b>	0	0	0	1	0
<b>Polmont</b>	10	4	14	6	5
<b>Shotts</b>	7	3	13	7	8
<b>Total</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>67</b>

## REQUEST FOR INFORMATION 2 & 3

### Injuries to Prisoners

Again, we do endeavour to provide information wherever possible. However, in this instance, the costs of locating, retrieving and providing the information requested would exceed the upper cost limit, which is currently set at £600 by Regulations made under section 12 of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002. In order to obtain the information that you have asked for, we would have to go through every incident report for each year in order to identify those classed as serious. We would then have to do a search of every individual prisoner involved and read their records to ascertain whether any injuries were sustained. Carrying out this work would exceed the cost limits. Should you wish to amend the scope of your request to a particular year or a particular establishment, we may be able to provide you with this information.

### Injuries to Staff

Again, we do endeavour to provide information wherever possible. However, in this instance an exemption under section 38 1(b) applies as the number of staff subject to serious assaults is low and the identification of where the incidents took place and the injuries sustained could lead to the identity of individual member staff being revealed. In order to provide some assistance, I have provided the number of serious assaults on prison staff which have taken place over the past 5 years.

<b>Prisoner on Staff Assaults - Serious</b>	<b>2015/16</b>	<b>2014/15</b>	<b>2013/14</b>	<b>2012/13</b>	<b>2011/12</b>
<b>Totals</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>5</b>

If you are unhappy with this response to your request, you may ask us to carry out an internal review, by writing to The Chief Executive, Calton House, 5 Redheughs Rigg, Edinburgh, EH12 9HW. Your request should explain why you wish a review to be carried out, and should be made within 40 working days of receipt of this letter, and we will reply within 20 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

Corporate Communications Manager