



Ref: HQ15269

17 February 2016

Dear 

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST

Thank you for your recent freedom of information request, which was received on 21 January 2016. This gives a statutory deadline for responding of 17 February 2016 under the terms of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002.

You asked the following, and for ease of reference I have copied your original questions as follows.

1. Could you please tell me how many weddings / civil ceremonies have taken place within Scotland's prison institutions for each of the past five calendar years?
2. Could you please break down the number of weddings / civil ceremonies per prison for each of the past five years? (EG HMP Addiewell/ HMP Perth)
3. Could you please tell me how many guests were permitted at each wedding and how many staff were required to be in attendance?
4. Could you please tell me where the ceremony took place within the institution and what catering services were provided? (Eg wedding buffet for 10 people)
5. Could you please tell me the total cost of each ceremony and who was required to pay? Are the couple asked to foot all costs?
6. Could you please tell me how many conjugal visits have been approved in the Scottish prison institutions for each of the past five calendar years and which prison they took place in?

In response to **Questions 1 – 6 inclusive**; having completed our search of all electronic and paper records held by the SPS I can provide the attached information which is all we have available. For clarity, the costs associated with SPS staff are part of our daily operating costs regardless of where staff are deployed at any given time and therefore not charged separately to any individual. SPS does not allow conjugal visits in any of the establishments.

If you are dissatisfied with this response, you have the right to request a review. Your request should be made within 40 working days of the date of receipt of this letter and we will reply within 20 working days of receiving your request. Under section 20(3)(c)(ii) of the Act your

request should outline your reason for seeking a review. If our decision is unchanged following a review and you remain unsatisfied with this, you then have the right to make a formal complaint to the Scottish Information Commissioner.

If you require a review of our decision to be carried out, please write to Colin McConnell, Chief Executive, Scottish Prison Service, Calton House, Redheughs Rigg, Edinburgh EH12 9HW. The review will be undertaken by staff not involved in the original decision making process.

I trust this information is helpful.

Yours sincerely,

Corporate Communications Manager
Scottish Prison Service