

Our Ref **HQ FOI 17002**

24 May 2017

Dear

Thank you for your request dated 6 April 2017 under the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 (FOISA). This gives a statutory deadline for responding by 8 May 2017. Please accept my apologies for the delay in responding to you. For reference I have copied your request below. You asked:

1. How many Freedom of Information requests have been received by the Scottish Prison Service over the last five years by:
  - Lawyers
  - Journalists
  - Prisoners
  - Commercial
  - Other
  
2. Of the prisoners who have made Freedom of Information Requests, how many individuals have made:
  - Between 1-10 FOI requests
  - Between 11-20 FOI requests
  - Between 21-30 FOI requests
  - Between 31-40 FOI requests
  - Between 41-50 FOI requests
  - More than 50 FOI requests
  
3. For those individual prisoners who have made more than 30 FOI requests, can I have the exact number of FOI requests each has made?

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

Please note that Financial year 2017-18 refers to requests made up to 06/04/17, the date of your Freedom of Information request.

In response to question 1, the table below provides details of the number of requests received by SPS. This information has been provided in the form in which it is held by the authority.

	<b>2017-18</b>	<b>2016-17</b>	<b>2015-16</b>	<b>2014-15</b>	<b>2013-14</b>
Lawyers		14	19	46	53
Journalists	1	96	92	157	111

Prisoners	5	353	396	320	325
Commercial		21	43	31	26
Political Source	1	25	20	21	16
Other		104	66	59	49
<b>Total</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>613</b>	<b>636</b>	<b>634</b>	<b>580</b>

**Number of individuals making requests**

In response to question 2, the table below provides information on the number of requests made by the 'top ten' individuals in custody. Please note that for financial year 2013-14, SPS has information readily available that shows that number of individuals who made 2 or more requests.

	2017-18	2016-17	2015-16	2014-15	2013-14
Total number of requests made by prisoners	5	353	396	320	325
More than 50	0	1	1	0	0
41-50	0	0	0	1	1
31-40	0	0	0	3	2
21-30	0	0	1	0	1
11-20	0	3	5	2	5
1-10	3	63	80	76	55

**Of the individuals making 30+ requests, the actual number made**

In response to question 3, the table below provides information on the number of requests made by individuals who have made 30 or more requests in any financial year. Please note that I have redacted the names of the individuals as this is personal data.

	2017-18	2016-17	2015-16	2014-15	2013-14
More than 30 requests made	N/A	Prisoner 1 made 160 requests.	Prisoner 1 made 135 requests.	Prisoner 2 made 45 Prisoner 1 made 40 Prisoner 3 made 39 Prisoner 4 made 33	Prisoner 5 made 42 Prisoner 2 made 37 Prisoner 3 made 35

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  
Scottish Prison Service