

Our Ref: HQ 17018

17 May 2017

Dear

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST

Thank you for your recent freedom of information request, which was received on 19 April 2017. This gives a statutory deadline for responding of 17 May 2017 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 request for information (RFI) as follows.

1. For each of the following years a) 2012, b) 2013, c) 2014, d) 2015, e) 2016 and f) 2017 so far please state the total number of recorded incidents of the Following; The total number of prisoners found in possession of extremist publications not authorised for use in prison, broken down by type of extremism (i.e. Islamic, nationalist, fascist etc.)
2. The total number of prisoners subject to case management relating to extremist concerns, broken down by type of extremism (i.e. Islamic, nationalist, fascist etc.)

In response to **RFI 1**; having completed our search of all electronic and paper records held by the SPS I can confirm there is no information held.

To provide clarity, the SPS can confirm in response to other recent similar requests we researched not only incident reports but also spoke directly with the chaplaincy teams in each establishment who confirmed they neither provided nor were aware of any such materials being in the possession of prisoners. We also contacted all the prison libraries who also confirmed no such material had ever been requested, provided or found. The only remaining area of risk is material sent into the prison via the direct mail process which due to foreign language use may not have been identified during the normal security checks applied to opening external private mail. For this again the SPS has no information.

In response to **RFI 2**; having completed our search of all electronic and paper records held by the SPS I can confirm there are 6 prisoners subject to case management as you describe. We do endeavour to provide information wherever possible but in this case, it has not been possible to fully comply with your request, therefore an exemption has been applied under section 38 (1) (b) of the Act. This is because the number of individuals involved are so low that providing further information could lead to the identification of these individuals.

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