



HEADQUARTERS  
Calton House  
5 Redheughs Rigg  
EDINBURGH  
EH12 9HW

Our Ref **HQ17262**

27 March 2018

Dear

Thank you for your request dated 22 February 2018 under the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 (FOISA). This gives a statutory deadline for responding by 22 March 2018. For reference I have copied your request below. You asked for:

Request for Information

1. Following on from the information provided, I would like focus on the 855 individuals who have been transferred from one prison to another in 2018 (as of February). I would like to know how many times these individuals have been transferred from one prison unit to another throughout the entirety of their prison sentence.
2. If able to include within FOI limits, I would also like to know the duration of each stay in each prison from every prisoner.

I have now completed my search for the information you request.

We do endeavour to provide information whenever possible. However, in this instance the costs of locating, retrieving and providing the information requested would exceed the upper cost limit of £600. With over 855 individuals transferred during the specified time period, I carried out (5) individual prisoner file searches which were averaging 3 mins 30 seconds per search. At a cost of £15:00 per hour this equalled £748:12. The additional information you requested was for all individual movements throughout the SPS estate, and using the calculation above, would involve over 7000 individual file searches and have an upper cost limit of £48,833:00.

Under section 12 of FOISA public authorities are not required to comply with a request for information if the authority estimates that the cost of complying would exceed the upper cost limit, which is currently set at £600 by Regulations made under section 12.

You may, however, wish to consider reducing the scope of your request in order that the costs can be brought below £600. This may be achieved by reducing the amount of establishments you require this information from.

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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