

Our Ref: FOI HQ 18007

9 May 2018

Dear

Thank you for your request dated 11 April 2017 under the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 (FOISA) for:

- How many Separation and Reintegration Unit extension orders have been approved by Scottish Ministers each year between 2007 and 2010; and
- How many Separation and Reintegration Unit extensions have been rejected by Scottish Ministers each year between 2007 and 2010?
- You have also stated that you would like a breakdown to which applications were for extensions over 72hrs and which ones were for extensions for over 1 month.

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.

Unfortunately the SPS only started recording information that would enable the collation of statistics for extension orders in 2015. The SPS electronic prisoner records system (PR2) does not allow us to retrospectively interrogate an individual's cell history. In order to ascertain whether this information is available, a manual search would have to be carried out on every prisoner's record to ascertain whether they were held in a Separation and Reintegration Unit under Rule 95 of The Prisons and Young Offenders Institutions (Scotland) Rules. As there are 7541 currently held in custody the information you require it would take approximately 754 hours to review which would exceed the upper cost limit. 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.

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

Communications Manager