

Our Ref: HQ 18315

25 March 2019

Dear

**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST.**

Thank you for your recent freedom of information request, which was received on 28 February 2019. This gives a statutory deadline for responding of 28 March 2019 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.

**Request for Information**

**RFI 1** Information about kosher meals being served in the following Scottish prisons: Addiewell, Barlinnie, Castle Huntly, Cornton Vale, Dumfries, Edinburgh, Glenochil, Grampian, Greenock, Inverness, Kilmarnock, Low Moss, Perth, Polmont, Shotts (i.e. all of them). I would like the following information:

- the number of prisoners requesting kosher meals; and
- the cost of these meals individually, broken down by year and prison for the past five years: 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017 and 2018 to present.

**RFI 2** If possible, I would also appreciate the average cost of individual meals on the standard menu and halal menus.

**RFI 3** Any information about special equipment i.e. ovens that may have been installed to cope with this dietary requirement.

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

In response to **RFI 1**; having completed our search of all electronic and paper records held by the SPS I can confirm the following information is held.

Establishment	Average Cost		Average Cost	
	No. 2017 / 2018	2017 / 2018	No. 2018 / 2019	2018 / 2019
Addiewell	NIH	NIH	NIH	NIH
Barlinnie	NIH	NIH	3	£5.32
Cornton Vale	NIH	NIH	NIH	NIH
Dumfries	3	£2.90	NIH	NIH
Edinburgh	NIH	NIH	23	£5.32
Glenochil	NIH	NIH	13	£5.32

Grampian	NIH	NIH	5	£5.32
Greenock	2	£5.60	NIH	NIH
Inverness	NIH	NIH	NIH	NIH
Kilmarnock	NIH	NIH	NIH	NIH
Low Moss	30	£5.55	NIH	NIH
Open Estate	1	£2.50	NIH	NIH
Perth	NIH	NIH	25	£5.32
Polmont	NIH	NIH	NIH	NIH
Shotts	9	£5.32	5	£5.32

(NIH – No information held)

- Please note the figures reflect the average number of individuals over the periods FY 2017 / 2018 & FY 2018 – 2019 to date. To clarify, the number changes throughout the year with new admissions and liberations.
- Our search shows that no information is held in relation to years 2014-15, 2015-16 and 2016-17, with the exception of one record from HMP & YOI Polmont for FY 2015 -2016 which showed one individual at a daily cost of £5.59 for 30 days.
- In addition, HMP Addiewell & HMP Kilmarnock are not contractually required to report this information to the SPS therefore there is no information held (NIH) for these establishments

In response to **RFI 2**; having completed our search of all electronic and paper records held by the SPS I can confirm the daily budget for adults, regardless of religious provision, is £2.50 and for young people £2.89.

In response to **RFI 3**; having completed our search of all electronic and paper records held by the SPS I can confirm that there are a range of options available to establishments that provide Kosher food. Establishments may buy pre-prepared food and use a number of approved methods including 'double foiled' cooking. No prison has a specific kosher equipped kitchen.

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

