

FOI HQ15040

[Redacted]

Dear [Redacted]

11 June 2015

Thank you for your request dated 19 May 2015 under the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 (FOISA). For reference you asked for;

- the number of investigations launched by the prison service into prisoners’ use of social networking during the calendar year 2014 and 2015 thus far. I would like this information broken down by prison establishment.
- the number of social networking sites shut down by the prison service during the calendar year 2014 and 2015 thus far. I would like this information broken down by prison establishment and to include the name of the social networking site i.e. Facebook, Twitter etc.

We have now completed our search for the information you request, and the answers are detailed in the table below.

In short, the SPS do not permit prisoners’ access to the internet and therefore to social media sites. SPS cannot close social media profiles. Upon identification of a profile for a prisoner, we request removal from the site. This is because there has been a breach of terms of conditions of use as they [the prisoner] have not been able to access the site through legal means or it has been accessed by a third party.

	2015			2014		
	No. of Investigation	No. Removed	Site	No. of Investigation	No. Removed	Site
Addiewell	2	2	Facebook	6	5	Facebook
Barlinnie	0	0	Facebook	5	3	Facebook
Cornton Vale	0	0	Facebook	1	0	Facebook
Dumfries	6	3	Facebook	2	1	Facebook
Edinburgh	3	1	Facebook	6	3	Facebook
Glenochil	1	0	Facebook	3	3	Facebook
Grampian	2	0	Facebook	6	6	Facebook
Greenock	1	0	Facebook	4	0	Facebook

Inverness	0	0	Facebook	1	1	Facebook
Kilmarnock	1	1	Facebook	3	3	Facebook
Low Moss	0	0	Facebook	3	1	Facebook
Open Estate	0	0	Facebook	4	2	Facebook
Perth	4	4	Facebook	5	3	Facebook
Polmont	1	1	Facebook	10	8	Facebook
Shotts	1	1	Facebook	8	3	Facebook

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

Head of Corporate Affairs