

Our Ref **HQ 15099**

Dear [REDACTED]

25 August 2015

Thank you for your request dated 27 July 2015 under the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 (FOISA). For reference, you asked;

1. Can you provide all information in relation to requests/ instructions to the SPS Chief Executive from the Scottish government, the justice minister (current and previous) in relation to a requirement for savings to be made from the current and future SPS budgets.
2. Can you provide all information relating to the savings which are expected to come from the implementation of the current organisational review.
3. Can you provide information on the areas within SPS where the savings will be made and how much savings will be made from non-operational and from operational areas.

We have now completed our search for the information you request. The answers are detailed below.

1. We do endeavor to provide information whenever possible. However, in this instance an exemption under section 12 of FOISA applies. As the information you have requested is not held in a central location, it would require searches, both manual and electronic, of a significant number of files. Given that your request does not specify a time period, these searches would have to cover a vast time frame. Furthermore, any directions for savings to be made could be held in files belonging to a wide range of people and may indeed come from a variety of different sources across government. As a result of these factors, the remit of the search is so wide that the cost of compliance with this part of the request exceeds the amount as stipulated in the Act.
2. The organisational review, published in November 2013, delivered a new Vision and Mission for the Scottish Prison Service (SPS), alongside a set of Values and Strategic Priorities that would underpin all we do. In addition, the review outlined how the SPS should be structured to deliver our Mission. The organizational review was never intended to be a cost-saving exercise, instead it was a “high-level review and realignment of SPS Vision, Values and Core Business”, in order to clearly define how the organisation would deliver on its mission to transform the lives of the people in its care, help to protect the public, and reduce reoffending. As such, we do not have information relating to the savings which are/were expected to come from the implementation of the current organisational review.
3. As we do not hold information on savings expected to come from the organizational review, I cannot provide an answer to your third question in relation to where these savings will be made in terms of operational and non-operational areas.

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