



HEADQUARTERS  
Calton House  
5 Redheughs Rigg  
EDINBURGH  
EH12 9HW

Our Ref: FOI HQ15255

██████████

8 February 2016

Dear ██████████

Thank you for your request dated 11 January 2016 under the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 (FOISA) for:

A list of all contraband which has been seized by the Scottish Prison Service in the last three years, including:

- 1.Exact quantities of all drugs/legal highs/alcohol which were found
- 2.Description of all weapons found
- 3.Mobile phones, and;
- 4.Any other items which have been confiscated

We have now completed our search for the information you request, please find response below.

1.The table below illustrates the breakdown of total suspected drug recoveries within Scottish Prisons by financial year for the last 3 years. Please note that establishments carry out presumptive testing on illicit articles recovered prior to issue to the Police to provide an indication of the substance found. All substances recovered are sent to the police for either further investigation or disposal as appropriate. The outcome of Police Investigations are seldom notified to the SPS. The numbers detailed below were compiled using the data we have using presumptive testing.

**Total Suspected Drug Recoveries for Last 3 Years**

Apr 2013-Mar 2014	Apr 2014- Mar 2015	Apr 2015-Mar 2016
1943	1784	1584

2.The table below illustrates the number of weapon recoveries including a breakdown of weapon type within Scottish Prisons by financial year for the last 3 years.

<b>Apr 2015 -Mar 2016</b>	
<b>Weapon Types</b>	<b>Total</b>
KNIFE	14
BRUSH/MOP	0
SNOOKER/POOL CUE	3
CERAMIC	3
COSH	3
SCISSORS	3
WEIGHTS/GYM	0
MANU - PERSPEX	1
MANU - PLASTIC	34
MANU - RAZOR	62
MANU - BLADE	47
MANU - WOOD	0
GLASS	6

<b>Apr 2014 -Mar 2015</b>	
<b>Weapon Types</b>	<b>Total</b>
KNIFE	38
BRUSH/MOP	2
SNOOKER/POOL CUE	4
CERAMIC	4
COSH	22
SCISSORS	7
WEIGHTS/GYM	1
MANU - PERSPEX	8
MANU - PLASTIC	47
MANU - RAZOR	73
MANU - BLADE	79
MANU - WOOD	2
GLASS	0

<b>Apr 2013 -Mar 2014</b>	
<b>Weapon Types</b>	<b>Total</b>
KNIFE	11
BRUSH/MOP	6
SNOOKER/POOL CUE	0
CERAMIC	0
COSH	9
SCISSORS	2
WEIGHTS/GYM	0
MANU - PERSPEX	13
MANU - PLASTIC	87
MANU - RAZOR	110
MANU - BLADE	78
MANU - WOOD	11

GLASS	3
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3. The table below illustrates the number of mobile phone recoveries within Scottish Prisons by financial year for the last 3 years.

<b>April 2015-Mar 16</b>	<b>April 2014-Mar 2015</b>	<b>April 2013-Mar 2014</b>
226	320	388

4. 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. The SPS has 2359 incidents recorded on their Prisoner Records System which would provide details of other items recovered. Therefore based on one individual searching 30 incidents per hour, at a cost of £15.00 per hour to provide the information you require this would cost approximately £1170. 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

**Head of Corporate Affairs**