

Our Ref HQ16046

27th June 2016

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for your request dated 30 May 2016 under the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 (FOISA) for:

1. I note in the Press and journal article dated 28 May that the Governor at HM Prison Inverness, Natalie Beal, has quoted that the proposed prison at Milton of Leys in Inverness will not hold sex offenders- "It's not a prison of allocation for sex offenders-only if there wasn't the space at another prison". Could you confirm that this will be the case?
2. As I understand there are sex offenders already housed at Porterfield Prison in Inverness, is this the case?
3. Please confirm that there will be no sex offenders based at the proposed new prison site unless as stated there is no room at other prisons.
4. I was under the impression that prisoners from the Highlands would be housed at the new prison so why would sex offenders suddenly be based elsewhere?

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

1. I can confirm that the proposed prison at Milton-of-Leys will not be a prison of allocation for sex offenders. In the event that no sex offender spaces were available elsewhere throughout the estate that Milton-of Leys would could be used to house sex offenders for a period of time until space in a sex offender allocated establishment becomes available.
2. Inverness currently hold a small number of sex offenders for operational reasons.
3. See response to question one.
4. The proposed prison at Milton of Keys will not be a prison of allocation for sex offenders. The management of this specific population requires specialised resource which is not replicated at every establishment. Sex Offenders would only be held locally until space in an allocated establishment becomes available.

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

SPS Headquarters