

FOI HQ 16246

20 February 2017

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your request dated 23 January 2017 under the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 (FOISA). This gives a statutory deadline for responding by 20 February 2017. For reference I have copied your request below. You asked:

1. How many attacks against prison officers by prisoners have been recorded in each year since 2010? Please break this down by;
 - a. Attacks that led to a minor injury (where no medical attention was required, and the type of injury was a bruise or a small scratch for example)
 - b. Attacks that led to a major injury (where medical attention was required, but the officer was able to perform their duties in the aftermath)
 - c. Attacks that caused severe injury or death (where the officer was unable to return to their duties following the incident)
2. How many of the attacks in Question 1 were reported to the Police?

I have now completed my search for the information you have requested. We do endeavour to provide information wherever possible but on this occasion it is not possible to provide the information that fully answers your questions as our information is not aggregated in the format that you request.

In order to assist with your request, I can provide details of the number of assaults on prison officers since 2010, broken down by establishment and by assault classification e.g. Serious Injury and Minor/Non Injury. Please note that these classifications are different to those used by the prison service in England and Wales. This information is enclosed.

In response to question 2, staff assaults are routinely reported to the police.

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

STAFF ASSAULTS - SERIOUS

Staff Assaults - SERIOUS	2016/17 April - 31 Dec 2016	2015/16	2014/15	2013/14	2012/13	2011/12	2010/11
Aberdeen	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Addiewell	2	0	0	0	0	1	1
Barlinnie	0	0	0	0	1	0	2
Cornton Vale	1	1	1	0	0	1	2
Dumfries	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Edinburgh	1	0	2	0	0	0	1
Glenochil	0	0	3	0	0	0	0
Grampian	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Greenock	0	0	1	0	0	1	0
Inverness	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Kilmarnock	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Low Moss	0	1	0	1	0	0	0
Open Estate	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Perth	0	1	2	0	0	0	0
Peterhead	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Polmont	0	0	0	0	0	2	0
Shotts	1	1	0	1	0	0	0
Totals	5	4	9	2	1	5	8

Serious Assault: A fight or assault which results in any individual receiving specified injuries: fractures, internal injuries, serious cuts, laceration which require 4 or more stitches, sutures or staples; stab or puncture wounds, severe bruising, severe scalds or burns, severe general shock or any other injury which requires treatment and admission to an external hospital as an inpatient, but excluding admission for observation.

STAFF ASSAULTS – MINOR & NO INJURY

The table below contains information on instances where staff members have been involved in incidents with prisoners, resulting in minor or no injuries.

Staff Assaults – MINOR /NO INJURY	2016/17 April - 31 Dec 2016	2015/16	2014/15	2013/14	2012/13	2011/12	2010/11
Aberdeen	0	0	0	7	10	2	6
Addiewell	20	9	5	12	17	10	28
Barlinnie	22	20	27	20	12	17	9
Cornton Vale	6	46	30	13	43	38	34
Dumfries	1	2	1	4	2	3	1
Edinburgh	11	8	15	9	28	12	10
Glenochil	4	12	3	13	4	3	1
Grampian	18	29	16	0	0	0	0
Greenock	2	1	2	2	1	3	1
Inverness	1	2	5	0	1	0	2
Kilmarnock	8	14	8	13	20	14	4
Low Moss	4	11	7	20	15	0	0
Open Estate	0	3	1	0	0	0	1
Perth	8	28	13	13	20	4	2
Peterhead	0	0	0	5	2	1	3
Polmont	15	17	22	23	19	17	8
Shotts	11	10	6	7	9	5	2
Totals	131	212	161	161	203	128	112