

Our Ref: HQ16214

23 December 2016

Dear [REDACTED]

## **FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST**

Thank you for your recent freedom of information request, which was received on 6 December 2016. This gives a statutory deadline for responding of 9 January 2016 under the terms of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002.

You asked the following, and for ease of reference I have copied your original request for information (RFI) as follows.

1. RFI – How many prisoners have been given home leave from (i) Castle Huntly and (ii) Perth Prison between December 23 and January 4 each year since 2011/12?
2. RFI – How many broke their leave agreement?
3. RFI – How many have been given home leave this year between December 23 2016 and January 4 2017 – NB from my understanding, this information will become available on or around December 20, and I would appreciate the response being held until that information becomes available.
4. RFI – What is the longest amount of time this leave will last for a prisoner?
5. RFI – What is the shortest amount of time this leave will last?
6. RFI – Of the prisoners given home leave last year, what was the longest amount of time they still had to serve?
7. RFI – What was the shortest amount of time they still had to serve?

In response to **RFI 1**; having completed our search of all electronic and paper records held by the SPS I can confirm the following information is held. Please note that HMP Perth does not provide home leave as it is a closed establishment.

**2011/2012 = 200**

**2012/2013 = 156**

**2013/2014 = 112**

**2014/2015 = 192**

**2015/2016 = 171**

In response to **RFI 2**; having completed our search of all electronic and paper records held by the SPS I can confirm the following:

**2011/2012 = 1**

**2012/2013 = 5**

**2013/2014 = 2**

**2014/2015 = 1**

**2015/2016 = 1**

In response to **RFI 3**; having completed our search of all electronic and paper records held by the SPS I can confirm that between December 23 2016 and January 04 2017, the following number of prisoners will be on home leave.

**2016/2017 = 153**

In response to **RFI 4**; having completed our search of all electronic and paper records held by the SPS I can confirm:

**8 Days / 7 Nights**

In response to **RFI 5**; having completed our search of all electronic and paper records held by the SPS I can confirm:

**5 Days / 4 Nights**

In response to **RFI 6**; having completed our search of all electronic and paper records held by the SPS I can confirm:

**Life Sentence**

In response to **RFI 7**; having completed our search of all electronic and paper records held by the SPS I can confirm this information is not held. For clarity our systems do not track sentence expiry information based on a temporary absence from prison.

If you are dissatisfied with this response, you have the right to request a review. Your request should be made within 40 working days of the date of receipt of this letter and we will reply within 20 working days of receiving your request. Under section 20(3)(c)(ii) of the Act your request should outline your reason for seeking a review. If our decision is unchanged following a review and you remain unsatisfied with this, you then have the right to make a formal complaint to the Scottish Information Commissioner.

If you require a review of our decision to be carried out, please write to Colin McConnell, Chief Executive, Scottish Prison Service, Calton House, Redheughs Rigg, Edinburgh EH12 9HW. The review will be undertaken by staff not involved in the original decision making process.

I trust this information is helpful.

Yours sincerely