



LETTER SENT BY E-MAIL ONLY

21 November 2023

2023/24-049

Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002

Request

Please find below our response to your correspondence dated 3 November, in which you made the following request under the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002:

I would be grateful if you could please provide me with:

- All SPA correspondence in 2023 to date relating to the implementation of Action 15 in police custody settings
- All materials prepared to brief or update SPA members on the implementation of Action 15 in 2023 to date

On 6 November, clarification was provided that the request relates to action 15 of the Scottish Government's Mental Health Strategy 2017-2027 which states:

Increase the workforce to give access to dedicated mental health professionals to all A&Es, all GP practices, every police station custody suite, and to our prisons. Over the next five years increasing additional investment to £35 million for 800 additional mental health workers in those key settings.

Response

Your request for information has been considered and the Scottish Police Authority is able to provide the following.

The Scottish Police Authority does not hold the information you have requested. Therefore, this represents a notice in terms of Section 17 of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 - Information not held.

No information is held by the Authority in relation to correspondence or briefings to members during 2023 on action 15 of the Scottish Government's Mental Health Strategy. However, to assist, we can advise that the Authority considers regular reporting in relation to custody and the provision of NHS services within the custody setting. Recent reporting includes:

- In June 2022, Police Scotland set out a vision for Custody which includes working with the NHS - [Criminal Justice Services Division 5 Year Vision and Direction](#)
- In June 2023, Police Scotland provided an update on the above overall vision which includes working with the NHS - [Criminal Justice Services Division Vision and Direction Update](#)
- In March 2023, the [HMICS Joint National Baseline Review - Health Care Provision - Custody - 16 March 2023](#) was presented to the Authority's Policing Performance Committee.
- In September 2023, two HMICS custody inspection reports were presented to the Authority's Policing Performance Committee - [HMICS Custody Inspection Report - Lanarkshire - April 2023](#) and [HMICS Custody Inspection Report - Tayside - July 2023](#)

Right to Review

If you are dissatisfied with the outcome of your request you can ask for a review. You must specify the reason for your dissatisfaction and submit your request by email to foi@spa.police.uk or by letter to Scottish Police Authority, 1 Pacific Quay, Glasgow, G51 1DZ.

After review, if you remain dissatisfied, you can appeal to the Scottish Information Commissioner within six months. You can apply [online](#), by email to enquiries@itspublicknowledge.info or by letter to Scottish Information Commissioner, Kinburn Castle, Doubledykes Road, St Andrews, Fife, KY16 9DS.

Should you wish to appeal against the Commissioner's decision, you can appeal to the Court of Session, only if you think the law has not been applied correctly.

An anonymised version of this response will be posted to our [Disclosure Log](#) in seven days' time.

