

ITEM 6.1A: CORRESPONDENCE, COMPLAINTS, AND FOISA REPORT

Purpose

1. To:

- provide members with a report on the Council's performance in terms of its statutory obligations under the [Freedom of Information \(Scotland\) Act 2002](#) (FOISA) and the [Scottish Public Services Ombudsman \(SPSO\) Act 2002](#) (SPSO); and
- provide an overview of the items of correspondence which have been responded to by the secretariat on behalf of the Council, in terms of [standing orders](#) 7.1(b)-(c).

Discussion

2. The table below provides an overview of the number of items under each category, the subject matter, and whether those items were responded to within the timescales set out by FOISA, our [Complaints Handling Procedure](#), or as otherwise specified in the table below, for the period **22 November 2022 - 10 March 2023**.

Category	Items	Subject	Response within timescale?
Correspondence (timescale for a response is not later than 20 working days after receipt)	26	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General sentencing enquiry (5) • Guideline enquiry (0) • Misdirected enquiry – for another organisation or body (0) • Misdirected enquiry – other (7) • Misdirected enquiry – concerning specific case or sentence (12) • MSP engagement (0) • Public engagement (0) • Research / work programme enquiry (0) • Stakeholder engagement (2) 	All items were responded to within the timescale.
Complaints (timescale for a response is per our Complaints	0		

Handling Procedure)			
FOISA requests (timescale for a response is per s10 of FOISA)	2	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Seeking information on the impact of the sentencing young people guideline. 2. Requesting information in relation to sexual offences cases. 	Both items were responded to within the timescale.
DPA requests	0		

Recommendation

3. Members are invited to note the content of this report and provide any comments.

Scottish Sentencing Council Secretariat

March 2023