

## ITEM 6.1A: CORRESPONDENCE, COMPLAINTS, AND FOISA REPORT

### Purpose

#### 1. To:

- provide the Council 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 **20 November 2024 – 7 March 2025**.

Category	Items	Subject	Response within timescale?
<b>Correspondence</b> (timescale for a response is not later than 20 working days after receipt)	<b>21</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• General sentencing enquiry (1)</li> <li>• Guideline enquiry (0)</li> <li>• Misdirected enquiry – for another organisation or body (0)</li> <li>• Misdirected enquiry – other (3)</li> <li>• Misdirected enquiry – concerning specific case or sentence (12)</li> <li>• MSP engagement (0)/ MP (0)</li> <li>• Public engagement (2)</li> <li>• Research / work programme enquiry (3)</li> <li>• Stakeholder engagement (0)</li> </ul>	<p><b>11 items were responded to within the timescale.</b></p> <p><b>Four items did not require a response.</b></p> <p><b>Four items were under consideration as at the date of writing.</b></p> <p><b>Two items were replied to after the timescale.</b></p>

Category	Items	Subject	Response within timescale?
<b>Complaints</b> (timescale for a response is per our Complaints Handling Procedure)	<b>0</b>		
<b>FOISA requests</b> (timescale for a response is per <a href="#">s10 of FOISA</a> )	<b>5</b>	<p>1. A request for information relating to numbers of employees on specified salary bands.</p> <p>2. A request for data provided in a publication to be further broken down.</p> <p>3. A request for information relating to spend on measures relating to “Equality, Diversity and Inclusion”.</p> <p>4. A request for a copy of a research report which had not yet been published.</p> <p>5. A request for sentencing data and information about training provided to judges on specific legislation.</p>	<p>Four items were responded to within the timescale.</p> <p>One item was still under consideration at the date of writing.</p> <p>One request for a review was received in response to a FOISA request response. At the date of writing the review was under consideration.</p>
<b>DPA requests</b>	<b>0</b>		

### Recommendation

3. The Council is invited to note the content of this report and provide comment.