

10 June 2008

Your Ref:

Our Ref: 0433/08

Mr John Gilmour
Request-367-d8191254@whatdotheyknow.com

Force Disclosure Unit
Police Headquarters
173 Pitt Street
GLASGOW
G2 4JS

Tel: 0141 435 1216

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Dear Mr Gilmour

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NUMBER 0433/08

I refer to your request for information dated 11 May 2008, which was received by Strathclyde Police on same date. Your request has now been considered and on 10 June 2008, a decision was made to grant some of your request. As such, the information you have requested is detailed below.

Please provide information showing the categories of meals available to detainees (omnivorous, vegetarian, vegan, fruitarian, halal for example) and the numbers of each meal issued to detainees, by category, in Strathclyde CD Sub Division, for all periods for which records exist.

The categories of meal available to persons kept in custody by Strathclyde Police at CD Sub Division (now known as BF Sub Division which covers part of the East-Dunbartonshire council areas) are described as follows.

Beef Casserole, Vegetarian Lasagne, Macaroni Cheese, Cottage Pie, Savoury Mince, Chicken Country Style, Sausage Casserole, Full Breakfast, Vegetarian Breakfast, Breaded Fish, Scotch Pie, Sausage Roll, Beef Curry with Rice, Halal Vegetarian, Halal Lamb, Halal Chicken, Halal Keema. Meals are not categorised by those you describe.

Availability during any particular period of custody is, of course, subject to it being in stock during that period.

In relation to the numbers of each meal issued to detainees by category, this information is not routinely collated.

By way of explanation, the meals are ordered from the supplier on the basis of checking the stock to see what is running low, however, a list is not kept as to what has been used or ordered in the past. Also, our Prisoner Processing records do not have any specific data fields dedicated to the food requirements of prisoners, however, on some occasions a specific food type may be added to the duty officer's notes within the free-text field based on information provided by a prisoner. If there is any dubiety as to the suitability of the meal for the individual then they will be clarified.

It may be possible for us to extract information if you made your request more specific and specified a much smaller time frame, however, the information, if retrievable, would be more than likely to be inaccurate as in most cases the information is not recorded.

I hope this information is helpful, however, if you are not satisfied with the way in which your request has been dealt with, you are entitled in the first instance to request a review of the decision made by the Force. Should you wish to request such a review, please write to Mrs Sheena Brennan, Disclosure Manager at the above address within 40 working days of receiving this letter.

Once informed of the Review Panel's decision, if you are still not satisfied, then you are entitled to apply to the Scottish Information Commissioner for a decision. Contact details are; Office of the Scottish Information Commissioner, Kinburn Castle, Doubledykes Road, St Andrews, Fife, KY16 9DS, telephone 01334 464610.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your interest in Strathclyde Police. Should you require any further assistance concerning this matter please contact me directly on 0141 435 1216 quoting the reference number given.

Yours sincerely

Colette McFarlane
Freedom of Information Officer