



Disclosure Team  
Ministry of Justice  
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John Hyde  
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Dear Mr Hyde

**Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Request – 220617016**

Thank you for your request received on 17 June 2022 in which you asked for the following information from the Ministry of Justice (MoJ):

**“...How many sitting days have been lost in crown courts since the start of the year due to the building being unavailable?”**

**Which crown court buildings have had to close for unplanned maintenance works and what has been the problem with each of those buildings?**

**How many crown courts have outstanding maintenance or repair work identified as necessary but not yet carried out? What is the estimated cost of these outstanding repairs?...”**

Your request has been handled under the FOIA.

I can confirm that the MoJ holds the information that you have requested and I have provided it below as follows:

A total of 111 sitting days have been lost in crown courts since the start of the year to 25 June 2022.

Hereford Crown Court is the only court to have closed due to unplanned maintenance, due to issues regarding the roof.

We have interpreted your request to include all crown court buildings within the HMCTS estate that currently have a registered repair request that has not been completed. This includes repairs that are considered reactive.

As of 8 July 2022, 78 crown court buildings are currently recorded as requiring repair across the HMCTS estate with a sum total of £454,656 provided by our service provider Equans. This figure is a total of the average cost of outstanding repairs at each of the crown courts in our estate. These repairs are covered under our national contract with Equans.

We have a planned pipeline of future works to improve the resilience and quality of the court estate, and this is kept under regular review. Spending is prioritised to ensure that buildings are safe, secure, meet statutory requirements and protect continuity of service. We will continue to work closely with local judiciary and operational colleagues to identify and address the areas of the highest maintenance priority.

HMCTS routinely carry out day to day repairs as and when the need arises in any of its buildings in line with its contractual agreement with the service provider. When unexpected breakdowns occur, officials and contractors make it a priority to complete repairs quickly and minimise any impact on hearings.

### **Appeal Rights**

If you are not satisfied with this response you have the right to request an internal review by responding in writing to the address below within two months of the date of this response.

[data.access@justice.gov.uk](mailto:data.access@justice.gov.uk)

Disclosure Team, Ministry of Justice

You do have the right to ask the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) to investigate any aspect of your complaint. However, please note that the ICO is likely to expect internal complaints procedures to have been exhausted before beginning their investigation.

Yours sincerely

**HMCTS Property Directorate**