

Witness name: Sean Cavens

Statement No.: WITN1146006

Exhibits: WITN1146007 – WITN1146038

Dated: 28<sup>th</sup> August 2020

**INFECTED BLOOD INQUIRY**

---

**EXHIBIT WITN1146016**

---



Ministry  
of Justice

Data Access & Compliance Unit  
Ministry of Justice  
102 Petty France  
London  
SW1H 9AJ

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

Sean Cavens

GRO-C

24 February 2020

Dear Mr Cavens,

**Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Request – 200211018**

Thank you for your request, dated 11 February 2020 in which you asked for the following information from the Ministry of Justice (MoJ):

***“Since the incarnation of Rosemary Pauline West on 22/11/95 what has the cost been to the UK taxpayers?”***

Your request has been handled under the FOIA.

I have interpreted your request to be that you seek information regarding the incarceration costs of Rosemary Pauline West.

The MoJ does not hold any information within the scope of your request. This is because there is no legal or business requirement for MoJ to do so.

Her Majesty's Prison and Probation Service (HMPPS), the Executive Agency within the department with responsibility for the management and reporting of prison related expenditure, does not collate or analyse costs down to individual prisoner level. The costs recorded on the HMPPS central accounting system do not allow identification of costs attributable to holding individual offenders. As such we do not hold the information as requested.

The FOIA does not oblige a public authority to create information to answer a request if the requested information is not held. The duty is to only provide the recorded information held.

However, outside of the FOIA and on a discretionary basis, you may like to note that HMPPS (prior to 1 April 2017, known as the National Offender Management Service) calculates and publishes annual average costs per prisoner and per prison place at a summary level for each prison in England and Wales by financial year (1 April to 31 March). The calculations are summarised by category of establishment. The most recent published figures for financial year 2018-19 can be accessed on the [www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk) website at the following link:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/prison-performance-statistics-2018-to-2019>

**Appeal Rights**

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

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

Disclosure Team, Ministry of Justice, 10.25, 102 Petty France, London, SW1H 9AJ

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

**Sanjay Patel**

Ministry of Justice  
Financial Management and Control