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| Ministry of Justice | **June 2017** |

**Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Request – 111935**

You asked for the following information from the Ministry of Justice (MoJ):

***1) How many staff of all prisons in England and Wales, and how many staff of all contracted-out prisons in England and Wales?***

***2) Is the status of the staff of the contracted-out prison (the private prison) Civil Service, Public Service, or private sector employee?***

Your request has been handled under the FOIA. I can confirm the MoJ holds the information you have requested.

**Question 1**

In relation to Public Prison Staff, I have interpreted your request as prison staff who are under the employment of Her Majesty’s Prison and Probation Service (HMPPS). It may be useful for you to know that some staff, for example the health care staff (GPs and nurses), teachers and facilities contractors in public prisons are not employees of HMPPS.

I can confirm that information on the number of public prison staff employed by HMPPS in England and Wales is exempt from disclosure under section 21 of the FOIA, because it is reasonably accessible to you. The information can be accessed at table 1 within the NOMS workforce tables at the publication link below:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/614643/noms-workforce-tables-march-2017.xlsx>

For contracted out prisons in England & Wales, please find in the table below, (Full time equivalent) as at 31 March 2017:

**Staff in post at private sector prisons by contractor, as at 31 March 2017**

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| **Contractor** | **Full-time equivalent staff as at 31 March 2017** |
| G4S | 2,289 |
| Serco | 1,787 |
| Sodexo | 1,934 |
| **Total** | **6,009** |

**Question 2**

Staff at contracted-out prisons are regarded as private sector employees.