



Neil Findlay MSP
The Scottish Parliament
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4 April 2013

Dear Mr Findlay

SCOTTISH PARLIAMENTARY QUESTIONS S4W-13653 and S4W-13654

The Cabinet Secretary in his response to the above PQs indicated that they relate to operational matters within the responsibility of the Scottish Court Service (SCS) corporate body. I am now writing to you in response to the matter you have raised.

S4W-13653 asks: what the annual cost has been of paying expenses and other costs to witnesses and jurors for attending court since 2007, broken down by type of court.

The following table provides the annual costs associated with juror expenses since 2007.

	07-08	08-09	09-10	10-11	11-12	12-13 (to end Feb 2013)
SHERIFF COURT	2,332,000	3,092,000	3,300,000	3,231,000	2,945,000	2,724,000
HIGH COURT	1,256,000	1,206,000	1,381,000	1,528,000	1,438,000	1,489,000
TOTAL	3,588,000	4,298,000	4,681,000	4,759,000	4,383,000	4,213,000

Figures shown are in £s.

Witness expenses are not paid by SCS. The administration and payment of prosecution witness expenses is an operational matter for the Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service (COPFS). The following table(s) provide the annual costs associated with prosecution witness expenses since 2007, as provided to me by COPFS.

	High Court	Professional Sheriff & Jury	Summary
2007/08	78,090	70,512	18,509
2008/09	80,175	56,462	58,653
2009/10	81,261	79,679	30,039
2010/11	70,555	69,589	61,019
2011/12	77,874	58,579	49,048
2012/13 to end Feb 2013	73,054	27,267	65,657

	High Court	Expert Sheriff & Jury	Summary
2007/08	150,688	147,821	658
2008/09	173,278	163,398	7,116
2009/10	229,921	225,191	5,016
2010/11	301,668	297,004	6,731
2011/12	210,474	205,194	6,467
2012/13 to end Feb 2013	201,696	32,731	85,272

	High Court	Ordinary Sheriff & Jury	Summary
2007/08	312,528	318,078	1,461,604
2008/09	378,856	384,455	1,449,324
2009/10	297,867	327,905	1,356,312
2010/11	295,819	366,427	1,359,414
2011/12	283,644	335,685	1,298,061
2012/13 to end Feb 2013	384,137	374,847	1,147,780

TOTAL	
2007/08	2,558,487
2008/09	2,751,719
2009/10	2,633,191
2010/11	2,828,227
2011/12	2,525,028
2012/13 to end February 2013	2,392,440

Figures shown are in £s

S4W-13654 asks: how much (a) jurors and (b) witnesses are entitled to in (i) expenses and (ii) compensation for lost wages for attending court.

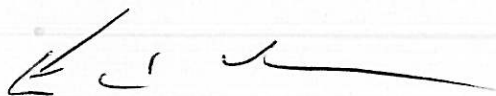
This information is publically available and can be found at:

For jurors - <http://www.scotcourts.gov.uk/coming-to-court/jurors/expenses-for-jury-service>

For witnesses - <http://www.copfs.gov.uk/witnesses/Information-Booklets>
(link provided by COPFS)

A copy of this letter will be placed in the Scottish Parliament Information Centre and published on the Scottish Court Service website.

Yours sincerely



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A copy of this letter will be placed in the Health Information Card and placed
on the Health Information Service website.

Yours sincerely,

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