

Alex Cole-Hamilton MSP The Scottish Parliament Edinburgh EH99 1SP

23 November 2020

Chief Executive's Office
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Dear Mr Cole-Hamilton

SCOTTISH PARLIAMENTARY QUESTION S5W-32363

The Cabinet Secretary in his response to the above PQ indicated that it related to operational matters within the responsibility of the Scottish Courts and Tribunals Service (SCTS). I am now writing in response to the matter raised.

S5W-32363 asks the Scottish Government how much the Scottish Courts and Tribunals Service has spent on child custody cases in each of the last five years.

In our Annual Report and Accounts each year we provide information on the total cost allocated to civil business within the courts, the latest version of which can be found on our website www.scotcourts.gov.uk/,

Costs are allocated by business type such as criminal, civil or administrative services. Within civil business, specific costs of child custody cases are not currently identifiable.

Whilst I acknowledge that this does not answer your question directly, the Scottish Government does produce annual civil justice statistics which detail the volumes of the various types of civil cases, which you may find useful. The latest version of the statistics can be found on the Scottish Government website: https://www.gov.scot/publications/civil-justice-statistics-scotland-2018-19/

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

Yours sincerely

Eric McQueen Chief Executive