

Dear Ms Williams

**Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Request – 171215015**

Thank you for your request dated 15 December in which you asked for the following information from the Ministry of Justice (MoJ):

**I note from PSI-05-2013 the definitions of Category A and Restricted Status (see below). These definitions are different and suggest that Category A security is higher than Restricted status.**

- 1. Are the security arrangements for a Category A prison higher than a restricted status prison.**
- 2. If restricted status was not considered sufficient containment for a female prisoner would she then be up graded to Category A?**
- 3. Would this Category A female need to be housed in a male prison with Category A security because the highest a female prison can be is restricted status?**

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.

In accordance with PSI- 2013-05 The Identification, Initial Categorisation and Management of Potential and Provisional Category A/Restricted Status Prisoners:

1. Yes, security arrangements for a Category A prison are higher than a restricted status prison.
2. Yes, a female prisoner can be up graded to Category A status if restricted status is deemed insufficient.
3. Yes, a female prisoner can be located in a Category A male establishment.

It is important to highlight however that with respect to questions two and three, these would only be considered under exceptional circumstances and this practice would be carefully risk assessed and approved at Executive Director level only.

## **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, 10.38, 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

E. Hunter  
Long Term and High Security Prison Group