

Request reference: 4424\_13

**I am interested to learn more about the treatment of people in police custody - particularly in relation to meal provision. My request is in three parts.**

**1.) Please could you confirm whether meals given to people held in police stations or custody suites are prepared by the force or purchased from restaurants and takeaways?**

Meals are prepared in-house.

**2.) if meals are purchased please provide a list of every restaurant used in the last 12 months and the total amount paid to each over that time period.**

Please see answer to question 1

**3.) If meals are prepared in-house please could you provide a sample menu covering at least one week's worth of meals from the last 12 months and the total annual cost of providing meals?**

Our provided meals are a selection of hot microwave meals and cereal bars.

<b>FOOD</b>
Complete Veg. Chilli (V&H&VN&L&G)
Complete All Day Breakfast (L)
Complete Chicken Casserole (H&L)
Complete Chilli Con Carne Rice (C&L)
Complete Potato Wedge Beans (All)
Complete Lamb Hot Pot (TF&C&H)
Complete Lamb Kheema Carton (H&L&G)
Complete Tuna & Pasta Bake Carton (H&L)
<b>IN CUP DRINKS</b>
Kenco Really Rich Coffee (Black)
Kenco Really Rich Coffee (White)
PG Tea (White)
PG Tea (Black)
Maxpac In Cup Orange
Suchard In Cup Chocolate
<b>CEREAL</b>
GEO Bar Chocolate
GEO Bar Mixed Berry
Kelloggs Frosties Cereal Bar
Tate & Lyle Sugar Sachets 4g(600)

(H = Halal, VN = Vegan, V = Vegetarian, C = Celiac (Wheat Intolerance), TF = Tomato free, L = Lactose Free, G = Gluten Free. All food is nut free.)

During the financial year 2012/13 West Midlands Police spent a total of £148,600 on detainee's meals.

The Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984, Code of Practice C states

At least two light meals and one main meal should be offered in any 24 hour period. Drinks should be provided at meal times and upon reasonable request between meals. Whenever necessary, advice shall be sought from the appropriate healthcare professional, on medical and dietary matters. As far as practicable, meals provided shall offer a varied diet and meet any specific dietary needs or religious beliefs the detainee may have. The detainee may, at the custody officer's discretion, have meals supplied by their family or friends at their expense.