

Subject: Closed records relating to the trial of Henry John Burnett, the last man hanged in Scotland

FOI reference: FOI/18/00007

Date received: 19 December 2017

Date responded: 22 January 2018

Information requested:

Access to closed records relating to the trial of Henry John Burnett, the last man hanged in Scotland, including the records listed below:

- HH16/327 Criminal case file: Henry John Burnett 1963
- HH16/433/1 Criminal case file: Henry John Burnett 1963-1964
- HH16/433/2 Criminal case file: Henry John Burnett 1963-1964
- HH16/433/3 Criminal case file: Henry John Burnett 1957-1963

NRS Response:

As Mr Henry John Burnett is deceased we have received permission from the owner of the records, Scottish Prison Service, to open the criminal case files requested. We have also received permission to open an additional five files relating to Mr Burnett:

- HH12/122/20 Aberdeen Prison: Order for Executing Death Sentence of Henry
- John Burnett on 15 August 1963 1963
- HH16/433/4 Criminal case file: Henry John Burnett 1958-1962
- HH16/434 Criminal case file: Henry John Burnett 1963-1964
- HH16/435 Criminal case file: Henry John Burnett 1963
- HH16/436 Criminal case file: Henry John Burnett 1963

As the files have now been opened, it is possible for you to order them out to consult in the Historical Search Room at General Register House, National Records of Scotland.

In order to visit the Historical Search Room you will need to obtain a Reader's Ticket. Information on how to apply for Reader's Ticket can be found on our website: <https://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/research/visit-us/historical-search-room/readers-ticket>, along with guidance on visiting the Historical Search Room and ordering records <https://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/research/visit-us/historical-search-room>. Please note that the records mentioned above are stored off site and we will require 24 hours' notice by telephone: 0131 535 1334 (+44 131 535 1334) on Mondays to Fridays during office hours or two working days' notice by completing this [form](#). We can accept orders for up to 12 outstored items per day. Under section 25(1) of FOISA, we do not have to provide you with information if it is already reasonably accessible to you.