

The Release of Prisoners (Coronavirus) (Scotland)

Regulations 2020

Interim Report – Tranche 3

Scottish Prison Service

Office of the Chief Executive

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Version 1.1

Unlocking Potential. Transforming Lives

Version Control

Version Number	Date of Version	Nature of changes made in this update
1.0	1 June 2020	Introduction of new document.
1.1	1 June 2020	Analytical review (JAS)

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1. Introduction

Scottish Prison Service (SPS) Early Release Statistics

Official Statistics: Special Release of Management Information

The Coronavirus (Scotland) Act 2020 provides new powers for the early release of a specific class of prisoners held in Scottish prisons.

Early Release has been deemed necessary in order to provide SPS with additional operational capacity including allowing for a greater use of single cell occupancy, keeping prison staff and the people in their care safe.

A total of **348 people** have been released from prison in the course of this scheme. The first early releases took place on 6th May, 2020.

As well as a specific set of exclusions¹, Governors In Charge (GIC) are empowered to veto a release if they consider that “if released, the person would pose an immediate risk of harm to an identified person”².

The following tables provide information on the outcomes of Governors’ assessments, and the numbers of prisoners released under the scheme. This information is collated by the governor of each prison and aggregated by SPS Operations Directorate.

Early release is being rolled out in three tranches. This report covers those considered for early release in Tranche 3, with a summary report of the programme as a whole to follow.

	Release Period	Total Eligible	Released Early	Vetoed	Other release*	Other non-release°
Tranche 1	04/05/2020 - 18/05/2020	204	154	23	27	-
Tranche 2	19/05/2020 - 25/05/2020	133	118	13	2	-
Tranche 3	26/05/2020 - 01/06/2020	108	76	27	5	-
Total to Date		445	348	63	34	0

* Includes cases released on their original schedule or under Home Detention Curfew

° Includes individual whose release is delayed due to showing symptoms of COVID-19

¹ Prisoner groups identified in paragraph 19(4) are excluded from early release <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/asp/2020/7/schedule/4/paragraph/19>,

² *Ibid.* Paragraph 19(3)(b) details the Governor’s veto

Across the three tranches, 445 individuals were eligible. 348 were released early, 63 had their release prevented by the Governor in Charge's veto, and 34 were released for other reasons. None of those eligible for release when their tranche was being assessed were symptomatic with COVID-19, which would have led to a delay in their release.

All enquiries should be addressed to: SPSNews@sps.pnn.gov.uk

2. Tranche 3 – Overview by Establishment

Establishment	Total Considered	Released	row %	Veto Applied	row %	HDC* Released	row %
Addiewell	9	3	33%	6	67%	-	-
Barlinnie	26	20	77%	4	15%	2	8%
Cornton Vale	2	2	100%	-	-	-	-
Dumfries	3	2	67%	-	-	1	33%
Edinburgh	10	9	90%	1	10%	-	-
Glenochil	3	2	67%	1	33%	-	-
Grampian	6	4	67%	2	33%	-	-
Greenock	3	1	33%	2	67%	-	-
Inverness	3	2	67%	-	-	1	33%
Kilmarnock	16	6	38%	10	63%	-	-
Low Moss	10	9	90%	-	-	1	10%
Perth	7	6	86%	1	14%	-	-
Polmont	10	10	100%	-	-	-	-
Total	108	76	70%	27	25%	5	5%

** Individuals who were eligible for release in the tranche, but chose to be liberated under Home Detention Curfew licence conditions.*

3. Tranche 3 - Overview by Local Authority

Establishment	Total			Veto		HDC*	
	Considered	Released	row %	Applied	row %	Released	row %
Aberdeen City	5	3	60%	2	40%	-	-
Angus	4	4	100%	-	-	-	-
City Of Edinburgh	5	4	80%	1	20%	-	-
Clackmannanshire	4	4	100%	-	-	-	-
Dumfries & Galloway	4	3	75%	-	-	1	25%
Dundee City	9	8	89%	1	11%	-	-
East Ayrshire	4	1	25%	3	75%	-	-
East Renfrewshire	1	1	100%	-	-	-	-
Falkirk	5	4	80%	1	20%	-	-
Fife	4	3	75%	-	-	1	25%
Glasgow City	14	11	79%	2	14%	1	7%
Highland	3	2	67%	-	-	1	33%
Inverclyde	2	2	100%	-	-	-	-
Midlothian	2	2	100%	-	-	-	-
North Ayrshire	6	2	33%	4	67%	-	-
North Lanarkshire	10	3	30%	7	70%	-	-
Outwith Scotland	4	2	50%	2	50%	-	-
Perth And Kinross	2	2	100%	-	-	-	-
Renfrewshire	4	3	75%	1	25%	-	-
South Ayrshire	3	3	100%	-	-	-	-
South Lanarkshire	5	4	80%	1	20%	-	-
Stirling	2	1	50%	-	-	1	50%
West Dunbartonshire	3	1	33%	2	67%	-	-
West Lothian	3	3	100%	-	-	-	-
Total	108	76	70%	27	25%	5	5%

* Individuals who were eligible for release in the tranche, but chose to be liberated under Home Detention Curfew licence conditions.

4. Tranche 3 – Overview by Age Range

Age Range	Total			Veto		HDC*	
	Considered	Released	row %	Applied	row %	Released	row %
16-17	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
18-22	10	9	90%	1	10%	-	-
23-27	19	9	47%	8	42%	2	11%
28-32	23	16	70%	7	30%	-	-
33-37	14	10	71%	4	29%	-	-
38-42	14	9	64%	3	21%	2	14%
43-47	16	14	88%	2	13%	-	-
48-52	4	4	100%	-	-	-	-
53-57	4	2	50%	1	25%	1	25%
58 and over	4	3	75%	1	25%	-	-
Total	108	76	70%	27	25%	5	5%

* Individuals who were eligible for release in the tranche, but chose to be liberated under Home Detention Curfew licence conditions.

5. Tranche 3 – Overview by Gender

Gender	Total			Veto		HDC*	
	Considered	Released	row %	Applied	row %	Released	row %
Women	9	8	89%	1	11%	-	-
Men	99	68	69%	26	26%	5	5%
Total	108	76	70%	27	25%	5	5%

* Individuals who were eligible for release in the tranche, but chose to be liberated under Home Detention Curfew licence conditions.