



HEADQUARTERS
One Lochside
1 Lochside Avenue
Edinburgh
EH12 9DJ

Our Ref: HQ25334

19 December 2025

Dear

Thank you for your request dated 28 October 2025 under the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 (FOI(S)A).

Please may I take this opportunity to apologise for the delay in providing you with this response.

For reference, you requested:

RFI 1: “The number of prisoners released in error (also recorded as “release in error”, “erroneous release”, or similar) in each year from 2015–16 to 2024–25, and year-to-date for 2025–26, broken down by prison.”

RFI 2: “The number of Significant Incident Reviews (SIRs) or equivalent reviews carried out following these incidents, by year.”

RFI 3: “Copies of any lessons-learned summaries or executive summaries produced as a result of these reviews, with personal data redacted.”

RFI 4: “Can you also provide a list of SPS’s current and ongoing risk registers.”

RFI 5: “If available, please include the definition or incident category used internally for “release in error”.”

We have now completed our search for the information you requested.

RFI 1 Response: Please see table below:

Establishment	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26
HMP Addiewell	3		1		1	2	1	1		1	
HMP Barlinnie				1	1		2	3	1	4	2
HMP Edinburgh	2	1						2			1
HMP Glenochil								1			
HMP & YOI Grampian	1			1						1	
HMP Greenock			1								
HMP Inverness	1	1							1		

HMP Kilmarnock		1	1		1					1	
HMP Low Moss		1		2		1	2		1		
HMP Perth				1				1	2		
HMP & YOI Polmont	1		1		1					2	1
HMP & YOI Stirling									2		1

* The figures provided are up to 5 December 2025.

RFI 2 Response: In all instances, when a liberation in error occurs, an incident report is produced to capture the details of the incident. These incidents are reviewed quarterly by the Warrant Administration Executive Group.

RFI 3 Response: Under section 17 of FOI(S)A I can advise that this information is not held by the Scottish Prison Service (SPS). No summaries of this nature have been produced.

RFI 4 Response: SPS maintains several risk registers as part of its governance framework. These include:

- Corporate Risk Register
- Operational Risk Register
- Health & Safety Risk Register
- Information Governance Risk Register
- Estates & Infrastructure Risk Register
- Business Continuity Risk Register

RFI 5 Response: SPS defines a “release in error” as a release from custody without lawful authority. Internally, these events are recorded under the SPS Incident Reporting framework as “Liberation in Error”.

This concludes our response to your request.

If you are unhappy with this response to your request, you may ask us to conduct an internal review, by writing to The Chief Executive, One Lochside, 1 Lochside Avenue, Edinburgh, EH12 9DJ. Your request should explain why you wish a review to be conducted and should be made within forty working days of receipt of this letter, and we will reply within twenty working days of receipt. If you are not satisfied with the result of the review, you then have the right to make a formal complaint to the Scottish Information Commissioner.

Yours sincerely

Freedom of Information Manager