



HEADQUARTERS
One Lochside
1 Lochside Avenue
Edinburgh
EH12 9DJ

Our Ref: HQ25403

15 January 2026

Dear

Thank you for your request dated 12 December 2025 under the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 (FOISA).

For reference, you requested.

RFI 1: “Annual average numbers of (i) cis women (ii) trans women serving sentences in Scottish jails for sexual crimes for each of the years from 2000 to the present day”

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

RFI 1 Response:

- a) The annual average number of cis women serving sentences in Scottish prisons for sexual crimes are listed below. Please note this information is only held from 2013.

Year	Annual Average Number of cis Women Serving Sentences in Scottish Prisons for Sexual Crimes*
2013	<5
2014	<5
2015	5
2016	5
2017	<5
2018	<5
2019	<5
2020	<5
2021	<5
2022	7
2023	10
2024	16
2025	16

* We do endeavour to provide information wherever possible, and we do hold the information requested, however disclosing specific numbers where the instances are less than five, may lead to the subsequent identification of the individuals concerned. It is for this reason an exemption under Section 38(1)(b) (personal information) of FOI(S)A has been applied to information requested and we are providing this information as less than five (<5).

- b) We do endeavour to provide information whenever possible. However, in this instance an exemption under section 38(1)(b) (personal information) of FOI(S)A applies to the information requested. Personal data is exempt from disclosure if disclosure would contravene any of the data protection principles in Article 5(1) of the UK GDPR and in section 34(1) of the DPA 2018. The Scottish Prison Service (SPS) seeks to be as open and transparent as possible, while also upholding our statutory obligation to protect the personal information of those in our care. The information you have requested relates to a small group of individuals and providing the information requested could, together with other available information lead to their inadvertent identification.

We have improved the way in which we collate and present data on our transgender population and, following advice from information governance experts, will only provide information on the total number of transgender people in our care. This information is published on the SPS website and can be found at the link below:

[Publications | Scottish Prison Service](#)

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 Manger