



HEADQUARTERS
 One Lochside
 1 Lochside Avenue
 Edinburgh
 EH12 9DJ

Our Ref: HQ25483

27 February 2026

Dear

Thank you for your request received 2 February 2026 under the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 (FOI(S)A).

For reference, you requested:

RFI 1: "I'm getting in touch regarding the number of weapons seized in Scotland's prisons over a five-year period, between January 2020 and December last year. I would also like to know how many weapons were seized last month

If you could please provide an annual breakdown of the types of weapons seized and at what prisons these took place, it would be much appreciated."

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

RFI 1 Response: Please see tables below:

2020

Establishment	Number of Weapons Recovered
HMP Addiewell	64
HMP Barlinnie	8
HMP Castle Huntly	0
HMP YOI Cornton Vale	0
HMP Dumfries	2
HMP Edinburgh	81
HMP Glenochil	20
HMP Grampian	2
HMP Greenock	2
HMP Inverness	9
HMP Kilmarnock	39
HMP Low Moss	54
HMP Perth	42
HMP YOI Polmont	14
HMP Shotts	36

2021

Establishment	Number of Weapons Recovered
HMP Addiewell	87
HMP Barlinnie	9
HMP Castle Huntly	0
HMP YOI Cornton Vale	1
HMP Dumfries	7
HMP Edinburgh	67
HMP Glenochil	42
HMP Grampian	3
HMP Greenock	9
HMP Inverness	22
HMP Kilmarnock	35
HMP Low Moss	88
HMP Perth	61
HMP YOI Polmont	46
HMP Shotts	54

2022

Establishment	Number of Weapons Recovered
HMP Addiewell	109
HMP Barlinnie	10
HMP Castle Huntly	0
HMP Dumfries	8
HMP Edinburgh	35
HMP Glenochil	25
HMP Grampian	0
HMP Greenock	9
HMP Inverness	14
HMP Kilmarnock	28
HMP Low Moss	62
HMP Perth	55
HMP YOI Polmont	30
HMP Shotts	34

2023

Establishment	Number of Weapons Recovered
HMP Addiewell	18
HMP Barlinnie	16
HMP Castle Huntly	0
HMP Dumfries	3
HMP Edinburgh	69
HMP Glenochil	5
HMP Grampian	1
HMP Greenock	5
HMP Inverness	17
HMP Kilmarnock	51
HMP Low Moss	51
HMP Perth	67

HMP YOI Polmont	48
HMP Shotts	57

2024

Establishment	Number of Weapons Recovered
HMP Addiewell	63
HMP Barlinnie	23
HMP Castle Huntly	0
HMP Dumfries	4
HMP Edinburgh	102
HMP Glenochil	49
HMP Grampian	33
HMP Greenock	6
HMP Inverness	4
HMP Kilmarnock	53
HMP Low Moss	112
HMP Perth	73
HMP YOI Polmont	60
HMP Shotts	93

2025

Establishment	Number of Weapons Recovered
HMP Addiewell	38
HMP Barlinnie	12
HMP Castle Huntly	0
HMP Dumfries	2
HMP Edinburgh	86
HMP Glenochil	30
HMP Grampian	36
HMP Greenock	11
HMP Inverness	4
HMP Kilmarnock	61
HMP Low Moss	118
HMP Perth	56
HMP YOI Polmont	64
HMP Shotts	131
HMP YOI Stirling	1

2026 (January only)

Establishment	Number of Weapons Recovered
HMP Addiewell	6
HMP Barlinnie	6
HMP Castle Huntly	0
HMP Dumfries	0
HMP Edinburgh	15
HMP Glenochil	2
HMP Grampian	2
HMP Greenock	2
HMP Inverness	0

HMP Kilmarnock	3
HMP Low Moss	6
HMP Perth	6
HMP YOI Polmont	2
HMP Shotts	5
HMP YOI Stirling	0

Please note, while we are able to provide the total number of weapons recovered by establishment and year, the Scottish Prison Service does not hold information on the type of weapon recovered in a format that can be readily extracted or reported.

Information regarding the type of weapon seized is recorded within individual incident records. There is no central database field that allows this information to be searched, filtered, or aggregated by weapon type.

To provide an annual breakdown of the types of weapons seized would therefore require a manual examination of more than 3,000 individual incident records. We estimate that the cost of locating, retrieving and extracting this information would exceed the £600 cost limit set out in section 12(1) of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002.

Accordingly, this part of your request is refused under section 12(1) of FOI(S)A.

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