



**HEADQUARTERS**  
One Lochside  
1 Lochside Avenue  
Edinburgh  
EH12 9DJ

**Our Ref:** HQ24077

25 July 2024

Dear

Thank you for your request dated 3 July 2024 under the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 (FOI(S)A).

For reference, you requested:

**RFI 1:** “How many foreign nationals are currently serving in Scottish prisons?”

**RFI 2:** “What proportion of the prison population do these figures represent?”

**RFI 3:** “How long are the average and median sentences for these prisoners?”

**RFI 4:** “Are prisoners ever deported from Scotland back to their country of origin – either following completion of their sentence, or during their sentence to serve the rest of the sentence in their home country?”

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

**RFI 1 Response:** On 24 July 2024 there were a total of 569 foreign nationals in custody in Scottish prisons. Of those, 258 are Untried and 311 are convicted.

**RFI 2 Response:** This represents 8% of the overall population.

**RFI 3 Response:** Under section 17 of FOI(S)A I can advise that we do not hold this information.

To be helpful, I have provided a link to the Scottish Government’s Prison Population Statistics which may provide you with the information you are looking for.

[Scottish Prison Population Statistics and Projections - gov.scot \(www.gov.scot\)](https://www.gov.scot/publications/prison-population-statistics-and-projections/2023-01-20/pages/1-1-introduction.aspx)

**RFI 4 Response:** Yes, there is legislation which allows for this to happen.

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