



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

**Our Ref:** HQ24110

28 August 2024

Dear

Thank you for your request dated 30 July 2024 under the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 (FOI(S)A).

For reference, you requested:

**RFI 1:** "Please provide me with any information on the number of requests the governors of each of Scotland's prisons have had from members of the public in the last financial year (April 1 2023 – March 31, 2024) to prevent a prisoner in their establishment from communicating with them?"

The details you provide do not have to be complete as I am aware that requests made by tel etc. may not be recorded. However, in an effort to gauge the number of requests of this nature, I would request that the SPS provide me with any information they do have on the number of these sorts of requests being made. By way of clarification, 'communication' would include written correspondence and telephone calls.

**RFI 2:** "Please can you also tell me what steps are taken against prisoners who continue to contact members of the public after being told by the prison governor not to contact those specific people? I.e. are disciplinary measures taken? What other steps can be taken?"

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

**RFI 1 Response:** Please see table below which provides the number of instances where members of the public have made a request to prevent communication from a prisoner (please note, this information is from establishments which hold the information in a reportable format):

Requests to Prevent Communication from a Prisoner 1 April 2023 – 31 March 2024	
HMP Barlinnie	11
HMP Castle Huntly	1
HMP Dumfries	3
HMP Edinburgh	9
HMP Grampian	4
HMP Greenock	5
HMP Inverness	4
HMP Kilmarnock	25
HMP Perth	16
<b>Total</b>	<b>78</b>

**RFI 2 Response:** When a request of this nature is received the prisoner is notified in writing by the Governor of the prison that they are not permitted to contact the individual via telephone or correspond with them by any means They are also notified that any breach of the notification will result in further consideration under Rule 55 of The Prison and Young Offender (Scotland) Rules 2011.

Should the prisoner not adhere to this notification the member of the public would be advised to contact Police Scotland.

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