



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

**Our Ref:** HQ24188

20 November 2024

Dear

Thank you for your request dated 23 October 2024 under the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 (FOI(S)A).

For reference, you requested: I write to request that the following information be made available in order to inform my understanding of issues which have impacted the accommodation profile within the Prison Service (Scotland) at the present time.

Can you advise upon the following areas of capacity and occupancy by inmates (remand and convicted) being detained in your own facility [HMP Barlinnie] on Friday 18 October 2024

**RFI 1:** "The maximum number of inmates which the facility can detain."

**RFI 2:** "The total number of inmates being detained on the above date."

**RFI 3:** "The number of non-UK Citizens within the detained population on the above date."

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

**RFI 1 Response:** HMP Barlinnie has a Design capacity of 987, however, on a daily basis will hold an average of more than 1300 individuals.

The maximum capacity of any prison (including HMP Barlinnie) is not a fixed position as there are several factors which directly impact upon capacity such as classification, risk groups, cell sharing risk assessments, cells out of use, people being held out of circulation, and people presenting operational risks, etc. Therefore, it is not possible to provide a maximum number that HMP Barlinnie can detain, and in accordance with section 17 of FOI(S)A this is information not held.

**RFI 2 Response:** On the above date HMP Barlinnie's population was 1380.

**RFI 3 Response:** Of those, 143 were not UK citizens.

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