| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 25-1923  Responded to: 3rd July 2025 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

## Since the creation of Police Scotland has resulted in many police stations closures. Can you tell me the how many cell spaces have been lost since this?

The National Custody Operating Model is comprised of three main types of facilities:

Primary – open full time to receive persons.

Weekend Opening – situated in areas of higher custody demand but only routinely opened to provide additional capacity at times of peak weekend demand.

Ancillary – available for activation as and when required.

We have considered your request in terms of the number of cells across *all* of Police Scotland custody suites.

I can advise you that there were 1,137 cell spaces across Police Scotland’s custody suites in 2013.

In 2025, there are currently 843 cell spaces across Police Scotland’s custody suites.

The above figures include cell spaces which are not in use or are temporarily closed due to renovation work being carried out.

Please note that current cell numbers are subject to change due to any last short notice closures.

If you require any further assistance, please contact us quoting the reference above.

You can request a review of this response within the next 40 working days by [email](mailto:foi@scotland.police.uk) or by letter (Information Management - FOI, Police Scotland, Clyde Gateway, 2 French Street, Dalmarnock, G40 4EH). Requests must include the reason for your dissatisfaction.

If you remain dissatisfied following our review response, you can appeal to the Office of the Scottish Information Commissioner (OSIC) within 6 months - [online](https://www.foi.scot/appeal), by [email](mailto:enquiries@foi.scot) or by letter (OSIC, Kinburn Castle, Doubledykes Road, St Andrews, KY16 9DS).

Following an OSIC appeal, you can appeal to the Court of Session on a point of law only.

This response will be added to our [Disclosure Log](http://www.scotland.police.uk/access-to-information/freedom-of-information/disclosure-log) in seven days' time.

Every effort has been taken to ensure our response is as accessible as possible. If you require this response to be provided in an alternative format, please let us know.