| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information ResponseOur reference: FOI 25-2642Responded to: 08 September 2025 |
| --- | --- |

Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

**I am writing to request the following information under the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002.**

**For each custody suite operated by Police Scotland within K Division, please provide the following information for the period January 2019 to the most recent month available:**

1. **The total number of cells available in each suite.**

The number of physical cells within K Division are 57. However, the number of cells available changes daily depending on resource availability, estates maintenance and operational incidents.

Regarding a monthly breakdown from January 2019, the information sought is not held by Police Scotland and section 17 of the Act therefore applies.

By way of explanation, this is not something that can be answered on a daily, weekly or monthly basis as it is not centrally recorded.

Furthermore, the number of cells available does not take into account the number of custody staff required to operate this number.

1. **A monthly record of dates on which the custody suite was closed (in whole or in part), including the reason for closure (e.g. staffing, maintenance, capacity reached).**

| **First day of closure**  | **Last day of closure** | **Reason for closure** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 18/02/19  | 05/05/19 | Estate works  |
| 08/01/21  | 21/02/21 | Resourcing |
| 24/12/21  | 28/01/22 | Resourcing |
| 14/03/22  | 17/03/22 | Resourcing |
| 21/03/22  | 24/03/22 | Resourcing |
| 18/07/22  | 24/07/22 | Resourcing |
| 28/09/22  | 30/09/22 | Resourcing |
| 10/10/22  | 12/10/22 | Resourcing |
| 07/12/22  | 08/12/22 | Resourcing |
| 16/10/23  | 19/10/23 | Resourcing |
| 07/11/23  | 08/11/23 | Resourcing |
| 22/07/24  | 25/07/24 | Resourcing |
| 11/12/24  | 31/12/24 | Resourcing |
| 21/03/25  | 14/04/25 | Resourcing |
| 20/06/25  | 30/06/25 | Resourcing |
| 07/07/25  | 14/07/25 | Resourcing |
| 21/07/25  | 27/07/25 | Resourcing |

It should be noted that a number of these closures were a result of staff isolating from Covid, as per government guidance at the time.

A decision to close a custody takes account of available resource levels and the need to ensure a safe and secure environment in Police custody. Alternative custody provision is available across the Police Scotland estate, including Clydebank and Govan.

1. **A monthly record of any occasions where detainees had to be transported to a custody suite outside their local division due to lack of capacity or closure. Please include the number of detainees and the destination suite.**

Unfortunately, I estimate that it would cost well in excess of the current FOI cost threshold of £600 to process your request. I am therefore refusing to provide the information sought in terms of section 12(1) of the Act - Excessive Cost of Compliance.

To provide this information would require a manual review of individual records to ascertain the location of arrests. As such, this is an exercise which would exceed the cost limit set out in the Fees Regulations.

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 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 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.