

Stacey Brewer
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data.access@justice.gov.uk

7 September 2020

Dear Ms Brewer

Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Request – 200814008

Thank you for your request dated 14 August 2020 in which you asked for the following information from the Ministry of Justice (MoJ):

As of the date of this request 14/08/2020:

- 1. How many prisons in England and Wales (excluding prisons within the open estate) currently have cells without in-cell sanitation.**
- 2. Of each individual prison how many cells are currently without in-cell sanitation.**
- 3. How many prisoners in total are at present accommodated in prison cells without in cell sanitation.**

Your request has been handled under the FOIA.

I can confirm that the MoJ holds the information that you have requested and I have provided it below.

HMPPS Operating Standards require prisoners in normal accommodation to have 24-hour access to sanitation, this is achieved in a number of ways across the prison estate. The most common method of providing access to toilet and washing facilities are in-cell, however in a small number of older prisons it has proved impossible to fit in-cell sanitation or the costs of fitting in-cell sanitation is prohibitive. In those establishments access to facilities is via an electronic unlocking system, whereby prisoners are able to request access via an in-cell call bell, which allows the cell door to be opened remotely for a limited period of time to allow access to shared facilities on the wing. Another arrangement is where some prison rooms are left unlocked so that access to shared toilet facilities is possible, but the group of rooms are locked off as a unit.

In those prisons where there is currently no in-cell sanitation, arrangements for increased prisoner access to toilets, water and hand washing facilities have been introduced, including the issue of hygiene packs and hand sanitisers as well as increased cleaning of communal areas is taking place.

Furthermore, temporary accommodation has and continues to be installed in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. It is designed to support HMPPS in protecting prisoners by providing further space in the estate for prisoners in line with Public Health England guidelines. This temporary accommodation is for single occupation and provides in-room sanitation. This has created a safe environment for social distancing and self-isolation.

As of 14 August 2020, 18 prisons in England and Wales (excluding prisons within the open estate) currently have cells without in-cell sanitation. The following table details how many of the cells in each of these 18 prisons are without in-cell sanitation, as well as the number of prisoners accommodated in these cells.

Prison	Number of cells without in-cell sanitation (as of 14/08/20)	Number of prisoners in a cell without in-cell sanitation (as of 14/08/20)
Bristol	100	94
Channings Wood	74	74
Coldingley	365	274
Drake Hall	287	231
Exeter	56	0
Featherstone	35	35
Grendon	224	179
Highpoint	191	281
Isle of Wight	382	335
Lindholme	296	320
Long Lartin	307	282
Mount	44	44
Send	10	0
Styal	134	226
The Verne	466	440
Wayland	76	76
Whatton	40	39
Wymott	384	369
Grand Total	3,471	3,299

Appeal Rights

If you are not satisfied with this response you have the right to request an internal review by responding in writing to one of the addresses below within two months of the date of this response.

data.access@justice.gov.uk

Disclosure Team, Ministry of Justice

You do have the right to ask the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) to investigate any aspect of your complaint. However, please note that the ICO is likely to expect internal complaints procedures to have been exhausted before beginning their investigation.

Yours sincerely

Elinor Lloyd
Prison Supply Directorate