



The Scottish Parliament  
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

## Justice Committee

John Watt  
Chair  
Parole Board for Scotland

All correspondence c/o:  
Justice Committee Clerks  
Room T2.60  
The Scottish Parliament  
Edinburgh  
EH99 1SP  
Tel: 0131 348 5195  
justicecommittee@parliament.scot

By e-mail

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Dear Mr Watt,

### **Prison releases**

I write following a meeting of the Justice Committee where it was agreed that we should write to the Parole Board for Scotland about the impact of Covid-19 on prisoner releases.

In normal circumstances, prisoners approaching the time for their release would be considered for various progression arrangements. These include risk assessments, the use of the open estate, the use of work placements, home leave etc.

The Committee would be grateful for an update on how such processes are working during the public health emergency and for reassurances that releases are not being prevented during this time.

I look forward to your response.

Best wishes,

Margaret Mitchell MSP  
Convener  
Justice Committee