

Research Briefing

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The Prison Estate in England and Wales



Summary

- 1 Understanding the prison estate
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- Appendix: List of prisons in England and Wales

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Summary

The prison estate in England and Wales contains 120 prisons holding people who have been sentenced or are on remand awaiting trial for a range of crimes. The prison estate has a mixture of publicly and privately run institutions, some of which are newly built, while others date back to the Victorian era.

As of March 2023, the total prison population in England and Wales was around 84,400 people, 96% of whom were male.

The prison population has grown substantially over the past 30 years, with almost all the growth having taken place between 1995 and 2010. It reached its highest level in 2012 at around 86,600 people. During the pandemic, in 2020, the prison population dipped to its lowest level for around 13 years before rising again in each of the two most recent years.

In the long term, the Government expects the prison population to increase. Among reasons for the projected increase, the Ministry of Justice cites the rise in police officer numbers and changes in sentencing policy. The [most recent set of projections](#) give a central estimate for the prison population of 94,400 by March 2025 and a range from 93,100 to 106,300 by March 2027.

Concerns about conditions

There are long standing concerns that the prison estate is unfit for purpose. The estate includes many dilapidated and overcrowded prisons. There is a backlog of maintenance work in prisons that was [estimated in March 2021](#) to be around £1 billion.

[Reports from HM Inspectorate of Prisons](#) have repeatedly found living conditions to be poor, describing them in recent years as squalid, poor, overcrowded, insanitary and unacceptable. The inspectorate has reported finding damp cells, unscreened toilets and vermin at some prisons.

On an average day in 2022, 20.6% of prisoners in England and Wales were being held in crowded conditions. The proportion of prisoners being held in crowded conditions is currently lower than in recent years. The highest overall level of crowding was in 2015, when over a quarter (25.5%) of prisoners were in crowded conditions.

The Prison Estate Transformation Programme (2016-19)

The Government ran a Prison Estate Transformation Programme (PETP) from 2016-2019, which aimed to build 10,000 new prison places and close prisons in a poor condition.

In 2020, the [National Audit Office](#) and the [Public Accounts Committee](#) published reports that were critical of the attempts made by the Ministry of Justice and HM Prison and Probation Service (HMPPS) to improve the prison estate. The Public Accounts Committee said that despite promises to create 10,000 new prison places by 2020, just 206 new places had been delivered, and prisoners continued to be held in unsafe, crowded conditions that did not meet their needs.

Plans to close old prisons in a poor condition did not proceed, with Ministers stating the places were needed to accommodate rising numbers of prisoners.

Plans for more prison places

In March 2018, the Ministry of Justice decided not to deliver the PETP in full due to budget pressures and removed around 6,500 places from the programme. In summer 2019 the PETP was retired, and a new programme created. The Government [announced in August 2019](#) that it would spend up to £2.5 billion to create 10,000 prison places in addition to the approximately 3,500 places already under way.

In the [2020 Spending Review](#), the Government stated it would spend more than £4 billion towards delivering 18,000 prison places across England and Wales by the mid-2020s. The 18,000 places would include the 10,000 places at four new prisons (announced in August 2019), the expansion of a further four prisons, the refurbishment of the existing prison estate and the completion of ongoing prison builds at Glen Parva (HMP Fosse Way) and Wellingborough (HMP Five Wells).

The [2021 Spending Review](#) said the Government would spend £3.8 billion to provide 20,000 prison places. The [Prisons Strategy white paper](#), published in December 2021, repeated the 20,000 figure, adding that this would be made up of 18,000 prison places (announced in 2020) and 2,000 temporary places.

The Prisons Strategy white paper said the provision of new prison places would make the estate more modern and secure, protect the public and provide a productive environment for offenders.

The Ministry of Justice has projected that the prison population will rise in the coming years, particularly as an anticipated result of an increase in the number of police officers and changes in sentencing and release policies.

Current position

HMP Five Wells, operated by G4S, was opened in March 2022. HMP Fosse Way, run by Serco, began accepting prisoners at the end of May 2023. Construction has started for HMP Millsike (Full Sutton), the first of the four new prisons announced in August 2019. The Government is seeking sites for the other three new prisons. Potential sites, subject to planning appeals, include land near current prisons Garth Wymott, Gartree and Grendon.

The Government [has said](#) that as of 5 June 2023, 5,202 of the 20,000 prison places planned have been delivered. The Minister explained this number included two new prisons (HMP Five Wells and HMP Fosse Way), approximately 700 temporary places through modular units and 680 places at HMP Dartmoor where the lease was extended.

Responses to the Government's approach

Prison reform organisations [have been critical](#) of the Government's approach of building more prison places. They argue that instead of increasing prison places the Government should reduce the prison population, thereby reducing overcrowding and freeing up resources for rehabilitation.

Women's prisons

In January 2021 the Government [announced](#) that up to 500 places would be built in existing women's prisons. The plans have been [criticised by prison reform organisations](#), who have commented that they undermine the Government's commitments to reduce the women's prison population and go against the Government's own evidence that most women in prison do not need to be there.

1

Understanding the prison estate

[HM Prison & Probation Service](#) (HMPPS) has responsibility for running prison services in England and Wales.¹ It is an executive agency, sponsored by the Ministry of Justice.²

HMPPS manages an estate of 120 prisons and Young Offenders Institutions (YOIs) and one Secure Training Centre. There are several different types of prisons intended to accommodate different cohorts of prisoner. Most prisons are managed directly by HMPPS, but some are run by private sector companies through contracts managed by HMPPS.³

The Ministry of Justice website [Prisons in England and Wales](#) contains an information page for each prison in the HMPPS estate. These pages describe the types of prisoners that are held in each prison and the services which are provided to them.

1.1

Adult male prisons

Prisoner categories

Prisoners are generally assigned to a prison based on their personal security category. However, HMPPS may transfer a prisoner to another prison with a different security category at any time.⁴

Adult male prisoners are assigned an alphabetical categorisation between A and D (where 'A' signifies highest risk and 'D' signifies lowest risk). The risk factors assessed when categorising an individual to a particular security category are the prisoner's risks of:

- escape or abscond
- harm to the public
- ongoing criminality in custody

¹ Prisons in Scotland are managed by the [Scottish Prison Service](#). Prisons in Northern Ireland are managed by the [Northern Ireland Prison Service](#).

² GOV.UK, [HM Prison & Probation Service](#)

Prior to April 2017, HMPPS was known as the National Offender Management Service (NOMS)

³ GOV.UK, [HM Prison & Probation Service: About us](#)

⁴ GOV.UK, [Prison life](#)

- violent or other behaviour that impacts the safety of those within the prison
- control issues that disrupt the security and good order of the prison.⁵

Types of prison

HMPPS organises the adult male prison estate into three main functions: reception, training and resettlement.⁶ A prison can serve more than one function.

Reception prisons (also called local prisons) mainly take prisoners sent from courts in the local area when they have been placed on remand awaiting trial or have been convicted and are awaiting sentence.

Training prisons can be category B or C and are designed to accommodate offenders at their corresponding category.

Resettlement prisons can be category C or category D (open) prisons. These prisons prepare prisoners for release. In an open prison some prisoners can leave to go to work or training, or to visit their family.

High security prisons, which can serve all three functions, can hold category A prisoners or those serving longer sentences.

A Ministry of Justice document explains how prisoners usually move between types of prison:

When the court sends someone to prison, they usually go to a local prison. At the local prison, it is decided what category of prison the prisoner will go to. Usually, they will move to a category B or C training prison. Then, they will go to a category C resettlement prison to get ready for release.

Not all prisoners follow this pattern. For instance, high-risk prisoners may go to a high-security prison and stay there. Some low-risk prisoners, or those with short sentences, may go straight to a resettlement prison.⁷

⁵ HMPPS, [Security categorisation policy framework](#), 17 August 2021

⁶ [JIN 119180 \[Prisons: Courts\]](#), 12 January 2023

⁷ Ministry of Justice, [The New Prisons Programme: New Prisons in Wethersfield, Braintree District Public Consultation](#) (PDF), September 2021, p4

1.2 Adult female prisons

There are 12 prisons in England and Wales that accommodate adult female offenders. Two of the twelve operate as open prisons (Askham Grange and East Sutton Park).⁸

1.3 Prisons for children and young adults

Young offenders are placed in three types of institution: Young Offender Institutions (YOIs), Secure Training Centres and Secure Children's Homes. The Youth Custody Service (part of the Ministry of Justice) decides on the type of institution in which a young offender will be held.⁹

YOIs accommodate young male offenders aged between 15 -17 and 18 -20 in separate institutions. There is now one Secure Training Centre. It is used for children up to the age of 17. Secure Children's Homes are run by local authorities and accommodate children aged 10-14. They are not part of the HMPPS estate, but places are commissioned by the Youth Custody Service. The Library briefing [Youth Custody](#) provides more information.

1.4 Private sector prisons

There has been private sector involvement in the prison system in England and Wales since 1992.¹⁰

Which prisons are operated by private sector companies?

There are 15 prisons in England and Wales that are managed by private sector companies.¹¹ Three different companies operate these prisons: [G4S](#) (Five Wells, Oakwood, Parc and Rye Hill), [Serco](#) (Ashfield, Doncaster, Dovegate, Fosse Way and Thameside) and [Sodexo](#) (Altcourse, Bronzefield, Forest Bank, Lowdham Grange, Northumberland and Peterborough).

⁸ Note that Peterborough has both male and female units and is sometimes reported as one institution rather than two separate institutions: Ministry of Justice, [Peterborough Prison information](#)

⁹ HMPPS, [Guidance: Placing young people in custody: guide for youth justice practitioners](#), July 2014

¹⁰ For details of the early history of private sector involvement in the prison estate see: Institute for Government, [Competition in prisons](#), November 2012,

¹¹ Gov.uk, [Prisons and their resettlement providers](#), June 2023

Most privately managed prisons in England and Wales hold adult male prisoners.¹² Only Bronzefield and Peterborough (female unit), which are both managed by Sodexo, are prisons for female prisoners.

Private sector prisons tend to be newly built and relatively large. There are no open or high security private sector prisons. This contrasts with public sector prisons which are a mix of prisons of different size, age and functions.

Government policy

The Government has said it remains committed to a mixed market in custodial services.¹³

The Prison Operator Services Framework was launched in November 2018 as a mechanism to choose private sector providers for new prisons and for current private sector prisons contracts when they expire.¹⁴ In June 2019 the Government announced that six bidders had been accepted onto the framework and were therefore eligible to bid in future mini-competitions to operate individual prisons. The six were: G4S Care and Custody Services UK Limited, Interserve Investments Limited, Management and Training Corporation Works Limited, Mitie Care & Custody, Serco Limited, and Sodexo Limited.¹⁵

In October 2020 the Ministry of Justice announced that G4S had been successful in its bid to operate HMP Five Wells, a new build resettlement prison at Wellingborough.¹⁶ This followed the first mini competition under the framework.

The Government announced in March 2022 that HMP Fosse Way, a new build resettlement prison at Glen Parva, would be operated by Serco. It also announced that one of four new prisons being planned would be run by HMPPS with the other three being run by the private sector. The Minister said this reaffirmed the Government's commitment "to a balanced approach to custodial services which includes a mix of public, voluntary and private sector involvement".¹⁷

Comment

In its 2019 manifesto, the Labour Party opposed the use of private sector providers in the prison system and stated that there would be no new private prisons and PFI prisons would be brought back in-house under a Labour Government.¹⁸ Shadow Justice Secretary Steve Reed, when asked in a 2022

¹² Gov.uk, [Prisons and their resettlement providers](#), June 2023

¹³ [PQ 75308 \[Prisons: Public Sector\], 21 July 2020.](#)

¹⁴ [HCWS1123, 29 November 2018.](#)

¹⁵ [PQ271527, Glen Pava Prison and Wellingborough Prison: Contracts](#), 9 July 2019

¹⁶ [HCWS490, 6 October 2020.](#)

¹⁷ [HCWS663, 7 March 2022](#)

¹⁸ The Labour Party, [It's time for real change: Labour Manifesto 2019 \(PDF\)](#), p46

press interview if he would bring privately-run prisons under state control, said that Labour would look at this on a case by case basis.¹⁹

The POA (the trade union for prison correctional and secure psychiatric workers) has opposed the privatisation of prisons. It has previously supported a TUC call for an independent inquiry into private sector involvement in the estate.²⁰

¹⁹ [Steve Reed interview: Labour 'cared more about criminals than victims' under Corbyn](#), Mirror, 13 February 2022

²⁰ POA, [Unions call for safer prisons and an end to prison privatisation at TUC 150th Congress](#), 10 September 2018

2

Prison population statistics

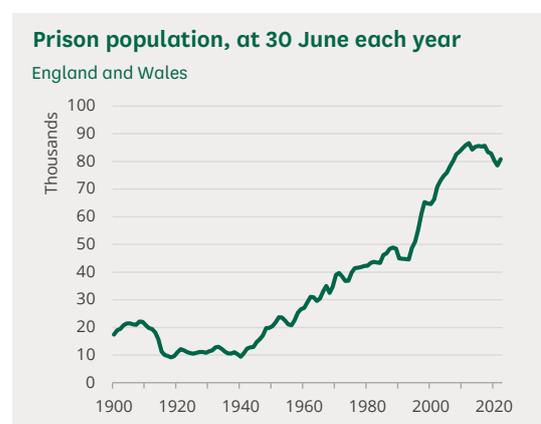
The Ministry of Justice publishes a variety of statistics on the prison population. Its main statistics publications on this theme are the quarterly [Offender Management Statistics](#), annual [HMPPS Digest](#), and periodic [Prison population projections](#).

The Library's briefing [UK Prison Population Statistics](#) provides a longer term overview of changes in the prison population of England and Wales, as well as Scotland and Northern Ireland.

2.1

Current and historic prison population

As of 31 March 2023, the total prison population in England and Wales was 84,372 people.²¹ This consisted of 77,593 male and 3,206 female prisoners, with female prisoners making up around 4% of prisoners, as has been typical in recent years. Those on remand made up around 17% of prisoners, with the remainder largely consisting of sentenced and recalled offenders.



The prison population has grown substantially over the past 30 years, with almost all of the growth having taken place between 1995 and 2010. In 2012, the annual average prison population stood at its highest recorded level of 86,634 people.²²

Throughout most of the 2010s, the prison population stayed relatively stable at around 85,000 people before reducing slightly in 2018 and 2019. During the pandemic, in 2020, the prison population dipped to its lowest level for around 13 years before rising again slightly in each of the two most recent years.

Recent years have been marked by an increase in the number of prisoners on remand and in their proportion of the overall prison population (17% in 2022 compared with 11% in 2019).²³

²¹ MoJ, [Offender management statistics quarterly](#), Oct to Dec 2022, table 1.1

²² MoJ, [Offender management statistics quarterly](#), Jan to March 2022, table A1.1.

²³ Ibid.

2.2

Prison population projections

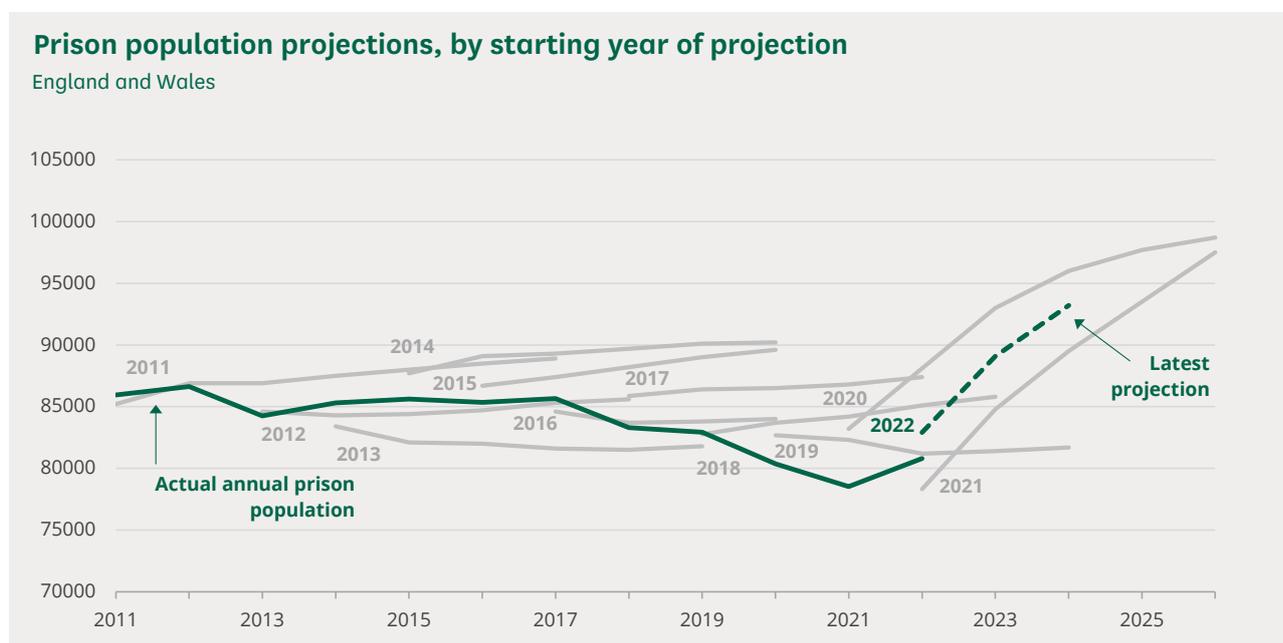
In the long term, the Government expects the prison population to increase. The most recent set of projections give a central estimate for the prison population of 94,400 by March 2025 and a range from 93,100 to 106,300 by March 2027.²⁴

Among reasons for the projected increase, the Ministry of Justice cites the rise in police officer numbers (which could increase charge volumes and in turn prison demand) and changes in sentencing policy. These projections are subject to a great deal of uncertainty, particularly in relation to “how the courts will recover from COVID-19 backlogs, the impact of the additional police officers, and the future crime mix.”²⁵

Past projections have tended to be slightly higher than the actual prison population. Notably, projections made in 2014 and 2015 expected the prison population to have surpassed 90,000 by this point.

The projections made in 2020, 2021, and 2022 have all anticipated there to be a steep rise in the prison population – as large as 10,000 or 15,000 people – by 2026.

The chart below shows compares the average annual prison population with the projections made in each year since 2011.



Source: MoJ, [Prison population projections](#), various years

Notes: The latest projections show only the central estimates, which are for November in each year up to 2024.

²⁴ MoJ, [Prison Population Projections 2022 to 2027, England and Wales](#), 23 February 2023

²⁵ Ibid.

3 Conditions in prisons

3.1 Living conditions

Age of the prison estate

The vast majority of the current prison estate was built during three major periods: the Victorian era, the mid-20th century and the turn of the 21st century.

Around a third of the prison estate was built during the Victorian era.²⁶ Victorian prisons tend to be ‘purpose built’. Many Victorian prisons are located in town centres and many now function as ‘local prisons’.

A little under a third of the prison estate dates from the mid-20th century (1940s-1970s). Whilst many of these buildings are ‘purpose built’, some have been repurposed, often from military bases or internment camps used during (or after) World War Two.

Around a quarter of the prison estate dates from the late 20th and early 21st century. These buildings tend to be ‘purpose built’.

Chief Inspector of Prisons’ assessment of living conditions

HM Inspectorate of Prisons is the independent body that reports on conditions and the treatment of those in held in custody.²⁷

The then Chief Inspector of Prisons, Peter Clarke, in his 2017-18 and 2018-19 annual reports said that conditions in these periods were some of the most disturbing and squalid the inspectorate had ever seen.²⁸

In his [2019-20 annual report](#), which dealt mainly with the period before the Covid-19 pandemic, Peter Clarke said that while living conditions had improved in some prisons, conditions remained poor and overcrowded for

²⁶ [The Persistence of the Victorian Prison: Alteration, Inhabitation, Obsolescence and Affirmative Design](#) is a research project being undertaken by academics at the University of Birmingham and the University of Bath, exploring the implications of the continued operation of Victorian-era prisons

²⁷ HM Inspectorate of Prisons, [What we do](#)

²⁸ HMIP, [Annual Report 2017-18](#), HC1245, p7
HMIP, [Annual Report 2018-19](#), HC 2469, p11

See also: HMIP, [Life in prison: Living conditions](#), October 2017

many prisoners. He said too many prisoners were spending much of their lives locked in shared, overcrowded, insanitary cells.²⁹

The current Chief Inspector of Prisons, Charlie Taylor, in his [2020-21 annual report](#) stated that the pandemic had exacerbated some underlying problems and unacceptable conditions that inspections have previously criticised. The annual report said:

With few exceptions, we found prisoners living together in cramped conditions in cells designed for one occupant. This was particularly a problem given the extended periods of lock-up under the COVID-19 restrictions. (...) Many shared cells were just too small and had unscreened washing and toilet facilities. Regime restrictions meant that there was little opportunity to alleviate these pressures and use communal facilities, which were often more private. The design of some single cells also meant that toilets were unscreened and sometimes next to beds.

We found the poorest accommodation in some of the older prisons, with Leicester, Pentonville and parts of Erlestoke among the worst. Cold, dark and shabby cells were often plagued by damp and cockroaches, leaking pipes and toilets, and broken or missing furniture and windows.³⁰

In his [2021-22 annual report](#) the Chief Inspector found the situation persisted, saying that overcrowding continued in most prisons and, for many, living conditions needed significant improvement.³¹ The inspectorate found cells were dirty and in a poor state of repair, with toilets lacking a seat and lid. It found vermin was a major problem at some prisons.

Measuring accommodation standards

International standards

There are international human rights standards for accommodation in prison. The [UN Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners](#) (PDF) and the [European Prison Rules](#) (PDF) both include expectations that prisoners' accommodation should be clean, well ventilated, that prisons should have enough space and that they should have access to private toilet facilities. Both sets of standards expect single occupancy cells to be the norm.

The European Committee for the Prevention of Torture and Inhuman Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CPT) has published minimum standards for living space per prisoner:

- 6m² of living space for a single-occupancy cell plus sanitary facility
- 4m² of living space per prisoner in a multiple-occupancy cell plus fully-partitioned sanitary facility

²⁹ HMIP, [Annual Report 2019-20](#), HC856, p19

³⁰ HMIP, [Annual Report 2020-21](#), HC442, p53

³¹ HMIP, [Annual Report 2021-22](#), HC411, p42

- at least 2m between the walls of the cell at least 2.5m between the floor and the ceiling of the cell.³²

Certified prisoner accommodation policy framework

HMPPS's [policy framework on certified prisoner accommodation](#) (PDF) sets out the minimum standards for the certification of prisoner accommodation in England and Wales.³³ Accommodation must be certified before it can be used. All accommodation must:

- Be of adequate size for the maximum number of prisoners it will hold
- Have adequate lighting, heating, ventilation and fittings
- Have 24-hour access to water and sanitation
- Allow prisoners to communicate at any time with a prison officer.

The framework states that accommodation is required to have space to sleep, to dress and undress, space for circulation, movement and seating, and space to eat meals. A washbasin is also required.

In uncrowded conditions prisoners should be able to use the toilet in private with full body screening and ventilation. In crowded conditions partial privacy screening is acceptable and separate ventilation is not required.

3.2

Crowding

On an average day in 2022, 20.6% of prisoners in England and Wales were being held in crowded conditions.³⁴ In that year, 62% of prisons were crowded, meaning some cells contained more prisoners than their intended capacity (i.e. two or more prisoners in a one-person cell, or three in a two-person cell). In 2022, the most crowded prison was HMP Durham, where 80% of prisoners were being housed in crowded conditions.³⁵

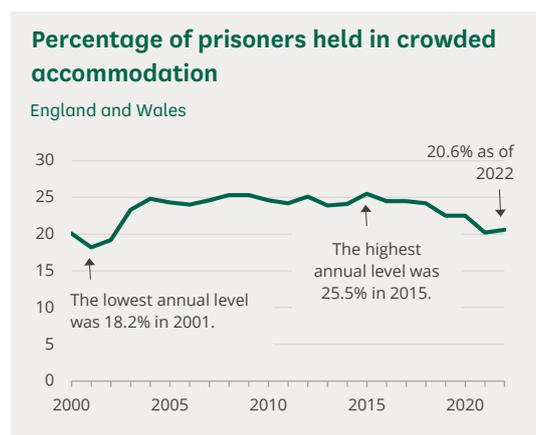
³² Council of Europe, [Living space per prisoner in prison establishments: CPT standards](#), (PDF), December 2015

³³ HMPPS, [Certified Prisoner Accommodation Framework](#), (PDF), reissued 27 February 2023, Annex A

³⁴ MoJ, [HMPPS Annual Digest, April 2021 to March 2022](#), table 2.2

³⁵ Ibid.

As the chart shows, the proportion of prisoners being held in crowded conditions is currently lower than in recent years, which is partly due to the impact of the pandemic. The highest overall level of crowding was in 2015, when over a quarter (25.5%) of prisoners were in crowded conditions.



Sharing cells is only possible in some categories of prison. Male local prisons had the highest level of crowding in 2022, with 45% of prisoners being held in crowded conditions (accounting for around three-quarters of all prisoners in crowded conditions). In female local prisons, by contrast, only 9% of prisoners were being held in crowded conditions.³⁶

3.3 Maintenance of prisons

Private sector involvement in prison maintenance

Prior to 2012, prison maintenance of public sector prisons was managed by HMPPS. Private sector prisons have always managed their own maintenance contracts.

In 2012, Mitie was awarded the contract for prison facility management of HMP Brixton. Mitie later took over the provision of facilities management at two other sites.³⁷ In June 2015, the facility management of the rest of the public sector prison estate was contracted out. Amey won the contracts for the North of England, the Midlands and Wales; Carillion won the contracts for London and the South of England.³⁸

Following the liquidation of Carillion in January 2018 the Government set up [Gov Facility Services Ltd](#), a government owned company, to manage the contracts in London and the South of England.³⁹ This, in effect, brought the maintenance of these prisons back into the public sector.

The National Audit Office, in January 2020, reported that HMPPS had failed to achieve the expected savings of £79 million by contracting out to Amey and

³⁶ MoJ, [HMPPS Annual Digest, April 2021 to March 2022](#), Table 2.5

³⁷ [PQ 3715, Prisons: Repairs and Maintenance](#), Answered 10 July 2017

³⁸ [PQ 3715, Prisons: Repairs and Maintenance](#), Answered 10 July 2017

³⁹ Ministry of Justice, [Press release: Ministry of Justice launches new facilities management company](#), 26 January 2018

Carillion. It also reported that providers' performance against targets had been below HMPPS's expectations.⁴⁰

Costs and spending

In March 2021 the Public Accounts Committee described the backlog of maintenance work, standing at an estimated £1 billion, as 'eye-watering'.⁴¹

In the 2020-21 Spending Review the Government included £315m capital funding to improve the prison estate.⁴² The Public Accounts Committee said the £315 million was significantly below what was required to maintain the prison estate.⁴³ The Committee said it remained concerned that the maintenance backlog posed a real threat to achieving a safe and secure prison estate able to accommodate future prison populations.⁴⁴

On maintenance and renewal, the December 2021 [Prisons Strategy white paper](#) (PDF) said that the Government would, over the next two years, prioritise maintenance spending on projects that ensure fire safety compliance for approximately 35,000 places, one third of the prison estate. The strategy said the Government would begin work on a new strategy for maintenance and renewal of the prison estate.⁴⁵

⁴⁰ National Audit Office, [Improving the Prison Estate](#), 7 February 2020, p7

⁴¹ Valued at November 2019, Public Accounts Committee, [Key challenges facing the Ministry of Justice](#), HC190, 24 March 2021, p6

⁴² Gov.uk, HM Treasury, [Spending Review 2020](#)

⁴³ Public Accounts Committee, [Key challenges facing the Ministry of Justice](#), HC190, 24 March 2021, p12

⁴⁴ Public Accounts Committee, [Key challenges facing the Ministry of Justice](#), HC190, 24 March 2021, p6

⁴⁵ Ministry of Justice, [Prisons Strategy White Paper](#) (PDF), CP 581, December 2021 para 33

4 Prison estate programmes

4.1 The Prison Estate Transformation Programme (PETP) 2016-19

Background and objectives

The Conservative Government of 2015-2017 identified a need to transform the prison estate in its 2016 white paper [Prison Safety and Reform](#) (pdf):

The physical environment that many staff and prisoners face on a daily basis is not fostering the kind of culture or regime needed for prisoners to turn their lives around. For prisons to be places of safety and reform, there needs to be a fundamental shift in the way that the prison estate is organised and operates and a significant improvement in the overall quality of the buildings across the prison estate.⁴⁶

It committed £1.3 billion to create 10,000 new prison places, to replace old accommodation.⁴⁷

The PETP was set up with the following objectives:

- invest £1.3 billion to build up to 10,000 new adult prison places
- close prisons that are in poor condition and those that do not have a long-term future in the estate
- simplify the organisation of the estate, placing prisoners at the right level of security in prisons with appropriately tailored regimes
- build and open five new community prisons for women.⁴⁸

Response to the PETP

Prison reform groups were critical of the PETP. The Howard League for Penal Reform criticised the Government for focusing too heavily on expanding the operational capacity of the prison estate rather than reducing the size of the prison population. In their evidence to the House of Commons Justice

⁴⁶ Ministry of Justice, [Prison Safety and Reform](#), Cm 9350, November 2016, Chapter 7: Building the right estate for reform.

⁴⁷ Ministry of Justice, [Prison Safety and Reform](#), Cm 9350, November 2016, box p58

⁴⁸ [National Offender Management Service: Annual Report and Accounts 2016-17](#), p66

Committee inquiry [Prison Population 2022: planning for the future](#), the Howard League said that there has been a

...failure of a plan which erroneously assumed that capital investment in expanding the prison estate could be a means of managing an ever-growing prison population. However, the answer to this rapidly worsening crisis is not to build more prisons, it is to reduce the prison population.⁴⁹

The Prison Reform Trust called for sentencing reform to ease pressure on prison numbers:

Limiting sentence inflation generally and curbing the growth in tariff length for indeterminate sentences would do more than any other measure to ease pressure on prison numbers, reduce overcrowding and free up resources to invest in rehabilitation.⁵⁰

New prison places

In March 2017, the Government announced a mix of building projects, including new prisons and projects to rebuild or expand existing prison buildings. The programme was to involve seven prisons:

- New prisons in Yorkshire (which would be adjacent to the existing Full Sutton prison) and Port Talbot, South Wales.⁵¹
- The existing prisons at Rochester, Hindley, Wellingborough and Glen Parva to be redeveloped (in some cases completely rebuilt).⁵²
- A new house block to be built at Stocken.⁵³

The current status of the building projects is as follows:

- Construction has started on a prison next to HMP Full Sutton (to be called HMP Millsike).⁵⁴ This is now part of the new prisons programme (see section 4.2 below).
- Plans for a prison in Port Talbot were withdrawn in January 2019 following strong objections in the community.⁵⁵

⁴⁹ Howard League for Penal Reform, [Response to the Justice Committee inquiry on the prison population in 2022](#), December 2017

⁵⁰ Prison Reform Trust, [Prison Reform Trust response to the Justice Committee Inquiry into the prison population 2022: planning for the future](#), December 2017

⁵¹ HCWS550, [Prison update: Written statement](#), 22 March 2017

⁵² As above

⁵³ As above

⁵⁴ [UIN HL6312](#), [Prisoners], 31 March 2023

⁵⁵ [Port Talbot super-prison proposals axed](#), BBC, 21 January 2019

- A new prison at Wellingborough, known as HMP Five Wells, was opened in March 2022.⁵⁶ The building of the prison was publicly financed. It is run by private sector operators G4S.⁵⁷
- The prison at Glen Parva, named HMP Fosse Way, started accepting prisoners at the end of May 2023.⁵⁸ The prison is run by private sector operator SERCO.⁵⁹ In June 2018, then Prisons Minister Rory Stewart confirmed that the Glen Parva project would be financed by a private finance initiative.⁶⁰ However, following the announcement in the 2018 Budget that the Treasury will no longer undertake new PFI contracts, the Government stated that it would fund the construction of Glen Parva.⁶¹
- The new house block at Stocken was completed in 2019.

Closures

Plans to close old prisons in a poor condition did not proceed. In its 2017/18 annual report HMPPS confirmed that the closure of Rochester and Hindley prisons had been put on hold. HMPPS said that a significant rise in the prison population had prevented them from closing the prisons.⁶² The then Justice Secretary, Robert Buckland, in October 2019 told the Justice Committee that he did not intend to close any prisons in the near future.⁶³ The then Prisons Minister, Lucy Frazer, said in her evidence to the Committee that Victorian prisons would need to be kept in operation to house the anticipated numbers of prisoners.⁶⁴

Community prisons for women

In the 2016 white paper, the Government committed to building five new 'Community Prisons' for women.⁶⁵ However, in its 2018 [Female Offender Strategy](#) the Government confirmed its policy had changed, stating it wanted to reduce the female prison population and would therefore shift its emphasis from custody to the community, and so would not be building the five new prisons for women.⁶⁶

⁵⁶ Gov.uk, [Britain's first 'smart' prison to drive down crime](#), 4 March 2022

⁵⁷ [HM Prison Five Wells: G4S](#), Written Statement, 6 October 2020

Gov.uk, Press release, [Wellingborough jail contract awarded and new name revealed](#), 6 October 2020

⁵⁸ Justice Committee, [Letter to Chair, Bob Neill from Damien Hinds, Minister for Prison and Probation](#), (PDF) 30 May 2023

⁵⁹ [JIN HCWS663](#) New prisons update, 7 March 2022

⁶⁰ [HC Deb 27 June 2018 c904](#)

⁶¹ HM Treasury, [Budget 2018 HC1629](#), paragraph 5.28, p76

⁶² HMPPS, [Her Majesty's Prison and Probation Service Annual Report and Accounts 2017-18](#), HC 1117, p11

⁶³ Justice Committee, [Oral evidence: The work of the Lord Chancellor](#), HC 41, 16 October 2019, Q43

⁶⁴ Justice Committee, [Oral evidence: The work of the Prison Service](#), HC42, 22 October 2019

⁶⁵ Ministry of Justice, [Prison Safety and Reform](#), Cm 9350, November 2016, para 255

⁶⁶ Ministry of Justice, [Female Offender Strategy](#), Cm 9642, June 2018, para 12

Ending of the PETP

In March 2018, the Ministry of Justice decided not to deliver the PETP in full due to budget pressures and removed around 6,500 places from the programme. In summer 2019 the PETP was retired and a new programme created (see section 4.2 below).⁶⁷

Criticism of the PETP

In February 2020 the National Audit Office published a report [Improving the prison estate](#). It concluded that HMPPS's plans to provide a safe, secure and decent prison estate were failing, stating that the PETP's plans to create up to 10,000 new prison places had proved undeliverable.⁶⁸

The [Public Accounts Committee's report](#) on improving the prison estate, published in September 2020, was also critical. It stated that the Ministry of Justice and HMPPS had failed in their attempts to improve the condition and suitability of the prison estate. It said that despite promises to create 10,000 new-for-old prison places by 2020, just 206 new places had been delivered, and prisoners continued to be held in unsafe, crowded conditions that did not meet their needs.⁶⁹

4.2 The current programme (2019 onwards)

Government says more places are needed

The then Justice Secretary Dominic Raab said in the Government's [2021 Prison Strategy white paper](#) that new prison places would protect the public through punishment and incapacitation of offenders and that the new estate would be more modern and secure, keeping staff safe and providing the most productive environment for offenders.⁷⁰

As set out above,⁷¹ the Ministry of Justice has projected that the prison population will rise in the coming years, particularly as an anticipated result of an increase in the number of police officers and changes in sentencing policy.

In November 2022 the Ministry of Justice activated Operation Safeguard which allows for police cells to be used temporarily to accommodate prisoners when extra capacity is needed. The Government said there had been an acute and sudden increase in the prison population with capacity pressure specific

⁶⁷ UIN HL10423, [Prison Estate Transformation Programme](#), 1 December 2020

⁶⁸ National Audit Office, [Improving the Prison Estate](#), 7 February 2020

⁶⁹ Public Accounts Committee, [Improving the prison estate](#), HC 244, 11 September 2020

⁷⁰ Ministry of Justice, [Prisons Strategy White Paper](#) (PDF), CP 581, December 2021 p3

⁷¹ Section 2.2

to the adult male estate.⁷² Places began to be used from February 2023.⁷³ The Government has said Operation Safeguard will be in use for no longer than is necessary, referring to its plans to build more prison places.⁷⁴

August 2019: 10,000 places announced

In August 2019 the Government announced that it would spend up to £2.5 billion to create 10,000 prison places.⁷⁵ These 10,000 places, it said, would be in addition to the approximately 3,500 places being created at HMP Five Wells, HMP Fosse Way, and HMP Stocken, as part of the initial commitment to create 10,000 places made in the 2016 white paper.⁷⁶

New prisons

The Government said the first prison to be built as part of the August 2019 commitment to 10,000 places would be at Full Sutton, where outline planning permission had been given to build a 1,440 place prison.⁷⁷ The prison will be called HMP Millsike and is due to open in 2025.⁷⁸ It will have approximately 1,500 new prison places.⁷⁹

The Government said in June 2020 that it was seeking to identify and secure sites for a further three new prisons, one in the North-West of England and two in the South-East.⁸⁰ It anticipated each prison will have 1,680 places, subject to geographical and planning constraints.⁸¹

Expansions and refurbishments

In addition to these four new prisons, the Government said its programme included expanding and refurbishing the current estate by building additional houseblocks and bringing decommissioned places back into use at the required standard.⁸² In October 2020 the Government announced expansions at four prisons; additional houseblocks would be built at Guys Marsh, Rye Hill and Stocken and a new workshop would be built at High Down. The Government said these buildings would provide more than 930 places.⁸³

⁷² [HC Deb 30 November 2022 c914](#)

⁷³ [UIN 150580](#) [Prisoners: Police Custody], 22 February 2023

⁷⁴ [UIN 102853](#) [Prisoners: Police Custody], 9 December 2022

⁷⁵ Gov.uk, [10,000 extra prison places to keep the public safe](#), 11 August 2019

⁷⁶ Justice Committee, [Letter from Justice Secretary, Robert Buckland to Chair of the Justice Committee, Bob Neil](#), 9 September 2019

⁷⁷ [Prisons: Overcrowding: Written question - 4258](#), 1 November 2019

⁷⁸ Gov.uk, Press release, [Name of new Yorkshire prison revealed](#), 27 February 2023

⁷⁹ [UIN 187210](#) [Prison construction], 12 June 2023

⁸⁰ [Prisons update](#), 29 June 2020, UIN HCWS320

⁸¹ Gov.uk, Press release, [Four new prisons boost rehabilitation and support economy](#), 28 June 2020

⁸² [UIN 78504](#), [Prisons: Construction], 7 September 2020

⁸³ Gov.uk, press release, [Expansion at 4 jails announced](#), 12 October 2020

November 2020: a total of 18,000 places announced

In the [2020 Spending Review](#) the Government stated it would spend more than £4 billion towards delivering 18,000 prison places across England and Wales by the mid-2020s.⁸⁴ The 18,000 places would include:

- the 10,000 places at the four new prisons (announced in August 2019)
- the expansion of a further four prisons (announced in October 2020)
- refurbishment of the existing prison estate
- the completion of ongoing prison builds at HMP Fosse Way and HMP Five Wells.⁸⁵

The [2021 Spending Review](#) stated that the Government would build on the 2020 commitment with £3.8 billion to deliver 20,000 additional prison places by the mid-2020s.

December 2021: The Prisons Strategy white paper: a total of 20,000 places announced

The [Prisons Strategy white paper](#) (PDF) published in December 2021 repeated the figure of 20,000 new prison places. The Government said it would continue with its existing plan to deliver 18,000 prison places by the mid-2020s and would deliver 2,000 temporary places. The strategy said that by the end of 2021 around 1,000 places had been created through a combination of refurbishments, installing temporary accommodation and repurposing Morton Hall Immigration Removal Centre back into a prison.

Details of houseblocks and refurbishments

In [February 2022](#), the Government said it would, as part of the 20,000 prison places, create 4,000 places across 16 prisons through an expansion and refurbishment programme. This announcement included some sites listed in the October 2020 announcement of additional houseblocks.

Subject to planning permission:

- 8 prisons would have additional houseblocks: Bullingdon, Channings Wood, Elmley, Highpoint, Hindley, Wayland, Guys Marsh, and Stocken
- 7 prisons had been or would be refurbished: Norwich, Feltham, Aylesbury, Haverigg and Swinfen Hall, Liverpool and Birmingham
- High Down would get a new workshop.

⁸⁴ Gov.uk, press release, [Prisons, courts and victim services will benefit from spending review funding](#), 26 November 2020

⁸⁵ [HC Deb 8 December 2020 c693](#) [Prison Capacity]

A [June 2022](#) press release from the Ministry of Justice said that refurbishment had been completed at Aylesbury, Feltham, Haverigg and Swinfen Hall.

Plans for new prisons

New prisons on the following sites are subject to ongoing planning appeals:⁸⁶

- On land next to HMP Grendon/Springhill in Buckinghamshire.⁸⁷
- On land next to HMP Garth and HMP Wymott in Chorley, Lancashire.⁸⁸
- On land next to HMP Gartree, near Market Harborough, Leicestershire.⁸⁹

The Government has said these prisons would provide approximately 5,000 places.⁹⁰

Prison places created

The Government has said that as of 5 June 2023, 5,202 of the 20,000 prison places had been delivered. The Minister explained this number includes two new prisons, approximately 700 temporary places through modular units and 680 places at HMP Dartmoor where the lease was extended.⁹¹

The Government says it anticipates there will be approximately 6,400 new prison places by the end of May 2024, rising to approximately 8,200 by the end of May 2025.⁹²

In June 2023 the Government said construction on new houseblocks was continuing at Stocken, Hatfield, Sudbury and Rye Hill, which would together add about 850 places. Major refurbishments are being undertaken at sites including Birmingham, Liverpool and Norwich, that the Government says will provide around 800 cells between them.⁹³

The Government has said 1,000 “rapid deployment cells”, which have a life span of about 15 years, will be used at 18 prison sites.⁹⁴ These cells are designed, the Government says, to quickly create extra capacity to meet rising demand, while longer-term expansion is underway. At HMP Norwich they are being used while renovations take place. They are also being used at HMP Hollesley Bay. The Government has said extra capacity to deal with immediate pressures is being provided by a combination of rapid deployment cells, greater use of double occupancy of cells, and delaying non-urgent

⁸⁶ [JIN 187209](#) [Prisons: Construction], 7 June 2023

⁸⁷ Gov.uk, [Potential New Prison in Buckinghamshire: Public Consultation](#), 21 December 2020

⁸⁸ Gov.uk, [Proposed new prison in Chorley: Public Consultation](#), 14 June 2021

⁸⁹ Gov.uk, [Proposed new prison in Market Harborough: Public Consultation](#), 28 June 2021

Gov.uk, [The New Prisons Programme, Gartree](#), March 2022

⁹⁰ [JIN 187210](#) [Prisons: Construction], 12 June 2023

⁹¹ [JIN 187206](#) [Prisons: Construction], 7 June 2023

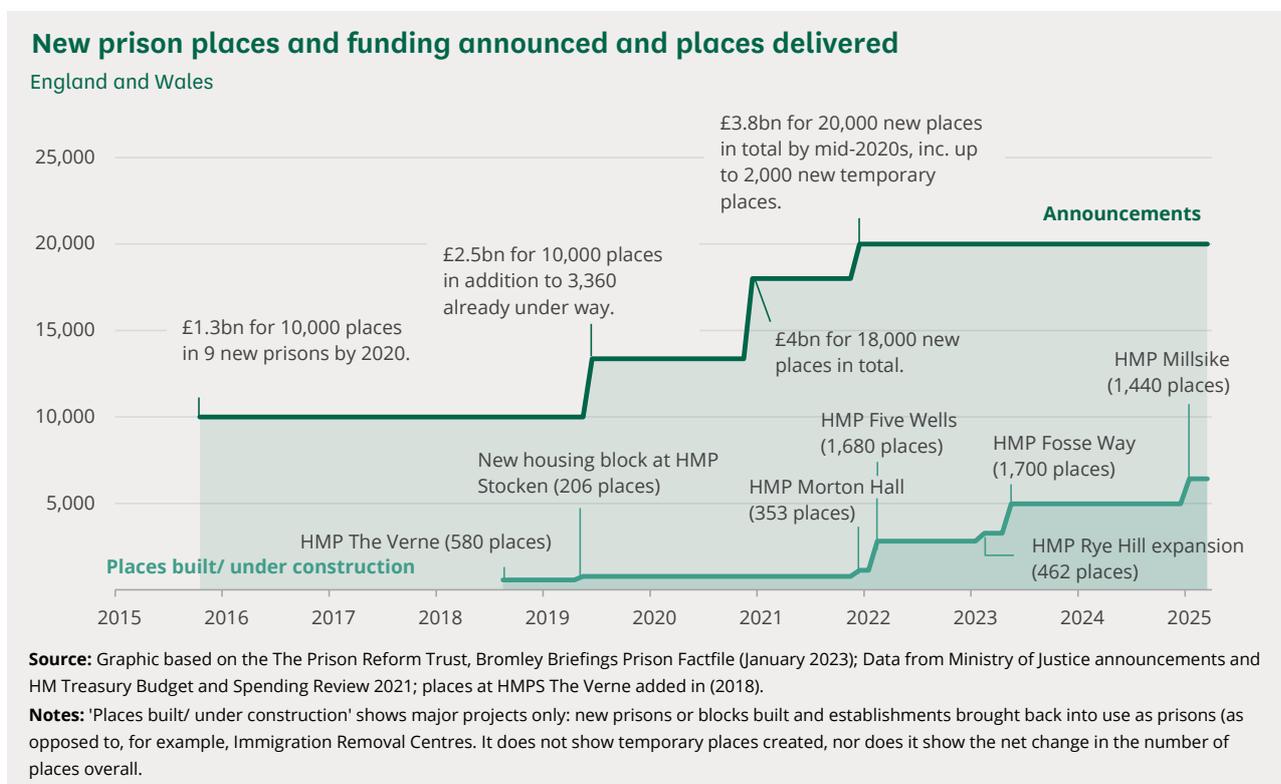
⁹² [JIN 187210](#) [Prisons: Construction], 12 June 2023

⁹³ [JIN 187210](#) [Prisons Construction], 12 June 2023

⁹⁴ Gov.uk, press release, [First Rapid Deployment Cells unveiled to boost prison places](#), 2 March 2023

maintenance work.⁹⁵ In June 2023 the Government said the majority of the sites for rapid deployment cells would be completed in 2023.⁹⁶

The chart below illustrates the number of new prison places announced since 2015 and the number which have so far been built or which are under construction.



Source: Based on Prison Reform Trust, [Bromley Briefings Prison Factfile](#), January 2023

New places created do not necessarily represent the total net change in prison places across the estate during this time.

Data released by the Secretary of State for Justice in response to a Parliamentary question shows the total number of prison places opened or closed in each year between 2010 and 2023 (to April).⁹⁷ These figures can be used to estimate the net change in places over time.

The Ministry of Justice also publishes weekly and monthly statistics showing the 'useable operational capacity' of the prison estate.⁹⁸ These tell us how many prisoners an establishment can hold "taking into account control, security and the proper operation of the planned regime." Useable operational capacity can vary from one week to the next for various reasons, including maintenance and health and safety issues.

⁹⁵ Gov.uk, press release, [Further rollout of Rapid Deployment Cells to boost prison places](#), 24 June 2023

⁹⁶ [JIN 187210](#) [Prisons: Construction], 12 June 2023

⁹⁷ [HC 182591 on 'Prison accommodation'](#), 2 May 2023

⁹⁸ MoJ, [Population bulletin: weekly 16 June 2023](#)

Comment

The Howard League for Penal Reform has criticised the plans to build more prison places. The organisation's then CEO, Frances Crook, wrote in 2021 that the new prisons would not reduce overcrowding and allow the closure of Victorian prisons as:

... experience has shown that the very announcement of more prisons means they encourage inflation of the use of prison. They are filled even before they are built.⁹⁹

Campbell Robb, CEO of NACRO, a national social justice charity, wrote that investing in yet more prison places is not the way to cut crime. He said the Government should instead be “focusing on early intervention and tackling the factors we know have such an influence on crime – poverty, lack of opportunity, trauma”.¹⁰⁰

Women's prisons

In January 2021 the Government announced that up to 500 prison places would be built in existing women's prisons. The Government said the new prison places would increase the availability of single cells and improve conditions.¹⁰¹

In December 2021 the [Prisons Strategy white paper](#) (PDF) said new facilities in the women's estate would be provided through a combination of open and closed places. It said expanding open provision would enable more women to be held at the correct security level and enhance access to resettlement opportunities.¹⁰²

In October 2022 the Government said 456 additional places would be provided through a mix of twelve open units (25 places per unit) and six closed units (26 places per unit) across five women's prisons: HMPs Drake Hall, Eastwood Park, Foston Hall, Send and Styal.¹⁰³

Comment

The plans for more prison places for women have been criticised by organisations including the [Howard League for Penal Reform](#), the [Prison Reform Trust](#) and [Women in Prison](#). They argue that the plans to build 500 new prison places for women undermine the Government's commitments to reduce the women's prison population, “going against the Government's own

⁹⁹ Howard League for Penal Reform, Frances Crook's blog, [It is time to stop building prisons](#), 28 July 2021

¹⁰⁰ Nacro, [Investing in yet more prison places is not the way to cut crime – Nacro CEO Campbell Robb in The Guardian](#), 1 December 2020

¹⁰¹ Gov.uk, press release, [Extra funding for organisations that steer women away from crime](#), 23 January 2023

¹⁰² Ministry of Justice, [Prisons Strategy White Paper](#) (PDF), CP 581, December 2021, para 156

¹⁰³ Justice Committee, [Women in Prison: Government Response to the Committee's First Report](#) (PDF), HC 802, 21 October 2022, p6

evidence and published strategy which acknowledges most women in prison do not need to be there”.¹⁰⁴ On the provision of more open places, the Prison Reform Trust has questioned why women who would be suitable for open conditions need to be in prison at all.¹⁰⁵

¹⁰⁴ Women in Prison, press release, [Women in Prison responds to MoJ funding announcement](#), 21 May 2021

See also: Howard League for Penal Reform, press release, [Howard League criticises government plans for more women’s prison places](#), 23 January 2021

Prison Reform Trust, press release, [Too many women sent to prison on short sentences for non-violent offences](#), July 2021

¹⁰⁵ Prison Reform Trust, [Blog: Welcome steps towards a women-centred approach](#), 28 October 2022

Appendix: List of prisons in England and Wales

The prison estate in England and Wales, including public and contracted prisons and secure training centres

Current as of June 2023

Prison	Male or Female	Management	Designation	Postcode	Parliamentary constituency	Region
Altcourse	Male	Private	Dual Designated Prison	L9 7LH	Liverpool, Walton	North West
Ashfield	Male	Private	Prison	BS16 9QJ	Thornbury and Yate	South West
Askham Grange	Female	Public	Dual Designated Prison	YO23 3FT	York Outer	Yorkshire and The Humber
Aylesbury	Male	Public	Dual Designated Prison	HP20 1EH	Aylesbury	South East
Bedford	Male	Public	Dual Designated Prison	MK40 1HG	Bedford	East of England
Belmarsh	Male	Public	Dual Designated Prison	SE28 0EB	Erith and Thamesmead	London
Berwyn	Male	Public	Dual Designated Prison	LL13 9QE	Wrexham	Wales
Birmingham	Male	Public	Prison	B18 4AS	Birmingham, Ladywood	West Midlands
Brinsford	Male	Public	Dual Designated Prison	WV10 7PY	South Staffordshire	West Midlands
Bristol	Male	Public	Dual Designated Prison	BS7 8PS	Bristol West	South West
Brixton	Male	Public	Prison	SW2 5XF	Streatham	London
Bronzefield	Female	Private	Dual Designated Prison	TW15 3JZ	Spelthorne	South East
Buckley Hall	Male	Public	Prison	OL12 9DP	Rochdale	North West
Bullingdon	Male	Public	Dual Designated Prison	OX25 1PZ	Banbury	South East
Bure	Male	Public	Prison	NR10 5GB	North Norfolk	East of England
Cardiff	Male	Public	Dual Designated Prison	CF24 0UG	Cardiff Central	Wales
Channings Wood	Male	Public	Prison	TQ12 6DW	Newton Abbot	South West
Chelmsford	Male	Public	Dual Designated Prison	CM2 6LQ	Chelmsford	East of England
Coldingley	Male	Public	Prison	GU24 9EX	Surrey Heath	South East
Dartmoor	Male	Public	Prison	PL20 6RR	Torrige and West Devon	South West
Deerbolt	Male	Public	Dual Designated Prison	DL12 9BG	Bishop Auckland	North East
Doncaster	Male	Private	Dual Designated Prison	DN5 8UX	Doncaster Central	Yorkshire and The Humber
Dovegate	Male	Private	Prison	ST14 8XR	Burton	West Midlands
Downview	Female	Public	Dual Designated Prison	SM2 5PD	Reigate	South East
Drake Hall	Female	Public	Dual Designated Prison	ST21 6LQ	Stone	West Midlands

Prison	Male or Female	Management	Designation	Postcode	Parliamentary constituency	Region
Durham	Male	Public	Dual Designated Prison	DH1 3HU	City of Durham	North East
East Sutton Park	Female	Public	Dual Designated Prison	ME17 3DF	Faversham and Mid Kent	South East
Eastwood Park	Female	Public	Dual Designated Prison	GL12 8DB	Thornbury and Yate	South West
Elmley	Male	Public	Dual Designated Prison	ME12 4DZ	Sittingbourne and Sheppey	South East
Erlestoke	Male	Public	Dual Designated Prison	SN10 5TU	Devizes	South West
Exeter	Male	Public	Dual Designated Prison	EX4 4EX	Exeter	South West
Featherstone	Male	Public	Prison	WV10 7PU	South Staffordshire	West Midlands
Feltham B	Male	Public	Young Offender Institution	TW13 4ND	Feltham and Heston	London
Five Wells	Male	Private	Dual Designated Prison	NN8 2NH	Wellingborough	East Midlands
Ford	Male	Public	Prison	BN18 0BX	Bognor Regis and Littlehampton	South East
Forest Bank	Male	Private	Dual Designated Prison	M27 8FB	Salford and Eccles	North West
Fosse Way	Male	Private	Prison	LE18 4WS	Harborough	East Midlands
Foston Hall	Female	Public	Dual Designated Prison	DE65 5DN	South Derbyshire	East Midlands
Frankland	Male	Public	Prison	DH1 5YD	City of Durham	North East
Full Sutton	Male	Public	Prison	YO41 1PS	East Yorkshire	Yorkshire and The Humber
Garth	Male	Public	Prison	PR26 8NE	South Ribble	North West
Gartree	Male	Public	Prison	LE16 7RP	Harborough	East Midlands
Grendon	Male	Public	Prison	HP18 0TL	Buckingham	South East
Guys Marsh	Male	Public	Prison	SP7 0AH	North Dorset	South West
Hatfield	Male	Public	Dual Designated Prison	DN7 6EL	Don Valley	Yorkshire and The Humber
Haverigg	Male	Public	Prison	LA18 4NA	Copeland	North West
Hewell	Male	Public	Prison	B97 6QS	Bromsgrove	West Midlands
High Down	Male	Public	Dual Designated Prison	SM2 5PJ	Reigate	South East
Highpoint	Male	Public	Prison	CB8 9YG	West Suffolk	East of England
Hindley	Male	Public	Dual Designated Prison	WN2 5TH	Makerfield	North West
Hollesley Bay	Male	Public	Dual Designated Prison	IP12 3JW	Suffolk Coastal	East of England
Holme House	Male	Public	Dual Designated Prison	TS18 2QU	Stockton North	North East
Hull	Male	Public	Dual Designated Prison	HU9 5LS	Kingston upon Hull East	Yorkshire and The Humber
Humber	Male	Public	Prison	HU15 2JZ	Haltemprice and Howden	Yorkshire and The Humber
Huntercombe	Male	Public	Prison	RG9 5SB	Henley	South East
Isis	Male	Public	Dual Designated Prison	SE28 0NZ	Erith and Thamesmead	London
Isle of Wight	Male	Public	Dual Designated Prison	PO30 5RS	Isle of Wight	South East

Prison	Male or Female	Management	Designation	Postcode	Parliamentary constituency	Region
Kirkham	Male	Public	Prison	PR4 2RN	Fylde	North West
Kirkclevington Grange	Male	Public	Dual Designated Prison	TS15 9PA	Stockton South	North East
Lancaster Farms	Male	Public	Prison	LA1 3QZ	Lancaster and Fleetwood	North West
Leeds	Male	Public	Prison	LS12 2TJ	Leeds West	Yorkshire and The Humber
Leicester	Male	Public	Prison	LE2 7AJ	Leicester South	East Midlands
Lewes	Male	Public	Dual Designated Prison	BN7 1EA	Lewes	South East
Leyhill	Male	Public	Prison	GL12 8BT	Thornbury and Yate	South West
Lincoln	Male	Public	Dual Designated Prison	LN2 4BD	Lincoln	East Midlands
Lindholme	Male	Public	Prison	DN7 6EE	Don Valley	Yorkshire and The Humber
Littlehey	Male	Public	Prison	PE28 0SR	Huntingdon	East of England
Liverpool	Male	Public	Prison	L9 3DF0	Liverpool, Walton	North West
Long Lartin	Male	Public	Prison	WR11 8TZ	Mid Worcestershire	West Midlands
Low Newton	Female	Public	Dual Designated Prison	DH1 5YA	City of Durham	North East
Lowdham Grange	Male	Private	Prison	NG14 7DA	Newark	East Midlands
Maidstone	Male	Public	Prison	ME14 1UZ	Maidstone and The Weald	South East
Manchester	Male	Public	Dual Designated Prison	M60 9AH	Blackley and Broughton	North West
Moorland	Male	Public	Dual Designated Prison	DN7 6BW	Don Valley	Yorkshire and The Humber
Morton Hall	Male	Public	Prison	LN6 9PT	Sleaford and North Hykeham	East Midlands
New Hall	Female	Public	Dual Designated Prison	WF4 4XX	Wakefield	Yorkshire and The Humber
North Sea Camp	Male	Public	Prison	PE22 0QX	Boston and Skegness	East Midlands
Northumberland	Male	Private	Prison	NE65 9XG	Berwick-upon-Tweed	North East
Norwich	Male	Public	Dual Designated Prison	NR1 4LU	Norwich North	East of England
Nottingham	Male	Public	Dual Designated Prison	NG5 3AG	Nottingham East	East Midlands
Oakwood	Male	Private	Prison	WV10 7QD	South Staffordshire	West Midlands
Onley	Male	Public	Prison	CV23 8AP	Daventry	East Midlands
Parc	Male	Private	Dual Designated Prison	CF35 6AP	Bridgend	Wales
Pentonville	Male	Public	Dual Designated Prison	N7 8TT	Islington South and Finsbury	London
Peterborough (male)	Male	Private	Dual Designated Prison	PE3 7PD	Peterborough	East of England
Peterborough (female)	Female	Private	Dual Designated Prison	PE3 7PD	Peterborough	East of England
Portland	Male	Public	Dual Designated Prison	DT5 1DL	South Dorset	South West
Prescoed	Male	Public	Dual Designated Prison	NP15 1XP	Monmouth	Wales
Preston	Male	Public	Dual Designated Prison	PR1 5AB	Preston	North West

Prison	Male or Female	Management	Designation	Postcode	Parliamentary constituency	Region
Ranby	Male	Public	Prison	DN22 8EU0	Bassetlaw	East Midlands
Risley	Male	Public	Prison	WA3 6BP	Warrington North	North West
Rochester	Male	Public	Dual Designated Prison	ME1 3QS	Rochester and Strood	South East
Rye Hill	Male	Private	Prison	CV23 8SZ	Daventry	East Midlands
Send	Female	Public	Prison	GU23 7LJ	Mole Valley	South East
Spring Hill	Male	Public	Prison	HP18 0TL	Buckingham	South East
Stafford	Male	Public	Prison	ST16 3AW	Stafford	West Midlands
Standford Hill	Male	Public	Dual Designated Prison	ME12 4AA	Sittingbourne and Sheppey	South East
Stocken	Male	Public	Prison	LE15 7RD	Rutland and Melton	East Midlands
Stoke Heath	Male	Public	Dual Designated Prison	TF9 2JL	North Shropshire	West Midlands
Styal	Female	Public	Dual Designated Prison	SK9 4HR	Tatton	North West
Sudbury	Male	Public	Dual Designated Prison	DE6 5HW	Derbyshire Dales	East Midlands
Swaleside	Male	Public	Prison	ME12 4AX	Sittingbourne and Sheppey	South East
Swansea	Male	Public	Dual Designated Prison	SA1 3SR	Swansea West	Wales
Swinfen Hall	Male	Public	Dual Designated Prison	WS14 9QS	Tamworth	West Midlands
Thameside	Male	Private	Dual Designated Prison	SE28 0FJ	Erith and Thamesmead	London
The Mount	Male	Public	Prison	HP3 0NZ	South West Hertfordshire	East of England
The Verne	Male	Public	Prison	DT5 1EQ	South Dorset	South West
Thorn Cross	Male	Public	Dual Designated Prison	WA4 4RL	Warrington South	North West
Usk	Male	Public	Dual Designated Prison	NP15 1XP	Monmouth	Wales
Wakefield	Male	Public	Prison	WF2 9AG	Wakefield	Yorkshire and The Humber
Wandsworth	Male	Public	Dual Designated Prison	SW18 3HS	Tooting	London
Warren Hill	Male	Public	Dual Designated Prison	IP12 3JW	Suffolk Coastal	East of England
Wayland	Male	Public	Prison	IP25 6RL	Mid Norfolk	East of England
Wealstun	Male	Public	Prison	LS23 7AZ	Elmet and Rothwell	Yorkshire and The Humber
Whatton	Male	Public	Prison	NG13 9FQ	Newark	East Midlands
Whitemoor	Male	Public	Prison	PE15 0PR	North East Cambridgeshire	East of England
Winchester	Male	Public	Dual Designated Prison	SO22 5DF	Winchester	South East
Woodhill	Male	Public	Dual Designated Prison	MK4 4DA	Milton Keynes South	South East
Wormwood Scrubs	Male	Public	Dual Designated Prison	W12 0AE	Hammersmith	London
Wymott	Male	Public	Dual Designated Prison	PR26 8LW	South Ribble	North West

Prison	Male or Female	Management	Designation	Postcode	Parliamentary constituency	Region
Secure Training Centres and Young Offender Insitutions						
Oakhill STC	Children	Private	Secure Training Centre	MK5 6AJ	Milton Keynes South	South East
Cookham Wood	Male	Public	Young Offender Institution	ME1 3LU	Rochester and Strood	South East
Feltham A	Male	Public	Young Offender Institution	TW13 4ND	Feltham and Heston	London
Werrington	Male	Public	Young Offender Institution	ST9 0DX	Staffordshire Moorlands	West Midlands
Wetherby	Male	Public	Young Offender Institution	LS22 5ED	Elmet and Rothwell	Yorkshire and The Humber

Source: HM Prison and Probation Service, Breakdown List of the Prison Estate and CPAs

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/prisons-and-their-resettlement-providers>

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