

Scottish Courts and Tribunals Service



Margaret Mitchell MSP
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Dear Ms Mitchell

SCOTTISH PARLIAMENTARY QUESTION S5W-17978

The Cabinet Secretary in his response to the above PQ indicated that it relates to operational matters within the responsibility of the Scottish Courts and Tribunals Service corporate body. I am now writing to you in response to the matter you have raised.

S5W-17978 asks (a) how many and (b) what type of weapons have been seized in Hamilton Sheriff Court in each of the last five years.

Weapon confiscations at Hamilton Sheriff Court & Justice of the Peace Court are conducted by contracted security staff that are permanently based there during business hours. Recorded data in this respect, specific to Hamilton Sheriff Court & Justice of the Peace Court is available. The recorded details were simplified into categories from January 2017 which explains the difference in format in the tabulated summary of quantities and types of weapons below:

Item	2014	2015	2016	Item	2017	2018 (to end June)
Bicycle tools		1	1	Bladed/pointed articles (not knife)	350	139
Bottle opener / Corkscrew	2	2	7	Knives	79	28
Box cutter	3			Syringes/needles	22	2
Chain	11	22	20			
Cutlery	2	9	7			
Darts	2	1	3			
Dog Lead / Chain	6	6	22			
Drill bit		1	3			

Knitting Needles			1
Kitchen Knife	6		
Laser pen		2	2
Lock Knife	2		1
Multi Tool	6	5	24
Penknife / Pocket Knife	15	42	47
Pliers	1	3	7
Razor / Razor Blades	19	37	44
Scissors	11	51	48
Screwdrivers	3	30	33
Stanley blade/knife		4	
Steel Comb		8	10
Stanley Knife	1	1	
Swiss army knife	3		
Syringes / Needles	8	2	3
Tweezers		31	33
Work Tools			5

A copy of this letter will be placed in the Scottish Parliament Information Centre and published on the Scottish Courts and Tribunals Service website.

Yours sincerely



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