

**From:** [Foi Enquiries](#)  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** EIR-17-1607 - Kingsford Stadium  
**Date:** 23 November 2017 15:47:16  
**Attachments:** [Further Information - Right to Review & Appeal.pdf](#)

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Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your information request of 30 October 2017. Aberdeen City Council (ACC) has completed the necessary search for the information requested.

**Please provide copies of all documents and recorded materials to / from Aberdeen City Council re: Aberdeen FC Kingsford Stadium Planning Application. I am happy to reduce the time period from 1 May 2016 through 7 October 2017 to 1 January through 30 October 2017**

ACC is unable to provide you with this information as it is excepted from disclosure. In order to comply with its obligations under the terms of Regulation 13 of the EIRs, ACC hereby gives notice that we are refusing your request under the terms of Regulation 10(4)(b) – Manifestly Unreasonable - of the EIRs.

In making this decision ACC considered the following points:

The following officers, Directorates and Services could potentially hold the correspondence:

- the Chief Executive and support staff,
- the current interim and previous Directors of CHI and support staff,
- the current and the previous interim Head of Planning and Sustainable Development and support staff,
- potentially all/or at least several officers within the following P&SD teams – Development Management, Environmental Policy, Development Planning, Building Standards, Roads Development Management, Applications Support Team, Public Transport Unit, Transportation Strategy & Programmes,
- Numerous other Council Services including Economic Development, Environmental Health, Contaminated Land Unit, Flooding & Coastal Protection, Asset Management, Waste Strategy, City Centre Masterplan Team
- All Elected Members (this could also potentially include correspondence held for Elected Members who did not return to office after the May elections)

It would potentially be an onerous task to search for all correspondence from the external organisation identified in the request. It would not be as simple as searching emails for, for example, “Scottish Football Association” or “Fairhurst UK”. We may need to know the name of the person who sent the emails, otherwise it could involve searching through the whole of an officer’s mailbox. Keywords, such as “Kingsford” might find the correspondence, but not necessarily.

To find, for example, the acknowledgements letters sent out in response to receiving written representations (expressions of support for the proposal) from the Scottish Football Association, would require searching through all 10,000-11,000 such letters to find the relevant ones.

A scoping exercise was undertaken in the areas identified in the request. It was identified that

the scope of the request would cover all persons within Directorates and Services identified above. As such, a large number of staff within those areas could hold correspondence and would therefore have to search their correspondence for the words, 'Pittodrie', 'Kingsford', 'stadium' etc. The volume of emails and written communications already identified within the Planning & Sustainable Development Service alone is in excess of 1,000 documents. These documents would need to be compiled, emails which were not relevant would need to be identified and deleted, and those left would need to be checked prior to release, removing any sensitive information such as personal information to avoid a breach of the Data Protection Act.

The volume required to be undertaken is seen as excessive and will cause a detrimental effect on the day to day work of the officers involved in searching, extracting and compiling the information for release. This will mean that other ongoing, time sensitive projects will suffer delay.

ACC would be happy to discuss ways in which you may refine your request, so we can provide some information of interest to you within the maximum cost limits.

For example, by reducing the number of officers required to search, perhaps focusing on one team (Development Management Team or Roads Development Management Team, for example) or on one specific officer (i.e. the relevant case officer or all senior managers, for example).

A significant amount of information regarding the Kingsford Stadium is published on our website, through our planning application portal which can be found here:

<https://publicaccess.aberdeencity.gov.uk/online-applications/>

The Kingsford Stadium application can be found by searching for 'Kingsford'.

As stated before, we have also responded to previous requests for information regarding Kingsford Stadium. These can be found on our Disclosure Log:

FOI-17-0545 – Kingsford Stadium:

<http://www.aberdeencity.gov.uk/nmsruntime/saveasdialog.asp?IID=75800&SID=28615>

EIR-17-0748 – Kingsford Stadium:

<http://www.aberdeencity.gov.uk/nmsruntime/saveasdialog.asp?IID=76053&SID=28615>

EIR-17-0846 – Kingsford Stadium:

<http://www.aberdeencity.gov.uk/nmsruntime/saveasdialog.asp?IID=76230&SID=28615>

EIR-17-1428 – Kingsford Stadium:

<http://www.aberdeencity.gov.uk/nmsruntime/saveasdialog.asp?IID=76889&SID=28615>

EIR-17-1450 – Kingsford Stadium:

<http://www.aberdeencity.gov.uk/nmsruntime/saveasdialog.asp?IID=76963&SID=28615>

We hope this helps with your request.

Yours sincerely,

Salomeh Kheyri Rad  
Information Compliance Officer

### **INFORMATION ABOUT THE HANDLING OF YOUR REQUEST**

As the information which you requested is environmental information, as defined under Regulation 2(1) of the Environmental Information (Scotland) Regulations 2004 (the EIRs), ACC considered that it was exempt from release through FOISA, and must therefore give you notice that we are refusing your request under Section 39(2) of FOISA (Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002). However, you have a separate right to access the information which you have requested under Regulation 5 of the EIRs, under which ACC has handled your request. Please refer to the attached PDF for more information about your rights under the EIRs.

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\*03000 numbers are free to call if you have 'free minutes' included in your mobile call plan.  
Calls from BT landlines will be charged at the local call rate of 10.24p per minute (the same as 01224s).

[www.aberdeencity.gov.uk](http://www.aberdeencity.gov.uk)