

Salomeh Kheyri Rad

From: Foi Enquiries
Sent: 31 October 2019 16:00
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: FOI-19-1274 - Scottish Government Meeting
Attachments: V3 - Further Information - Right to Review & Appeal.pdf

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your information request of 24 September 2019 and please accept our apologies for delay in providing the response to you. Aberdeen City Council (ACC) has completed the necessary search for the information requested. Our response is now detailed below.

When was the last time that any elected councillor(s) and/or council official(s) met with a Scottish Government Cabinet Secretary and/or Scottish Government Minister.

The last meeting was on 08/08/2019

How many times in the last five years (from May 2014 – to present) has an elected councillor and/or council official met with a Scottish Government Minister. Please, where possible, could this information be collated with the number of times they met and accompanying dates of when the meetings occurred and who the Scottish Government Minister was and whether they met with an elected councillor(s) or a council official(s).

These meetings could be official one to one meetings and/or councillor committee meetings and/or council group meetings where the SNP Minister will interact with various elected councillors.

The breadth of information requested going back 5 years would take weeks to collate, not only would we have to look at the calendars to identify the meeting but also any agendas to identify and meetings not in the calendar. We would also have to look at past Councillors to go back to 2014 prior to the election in 2017 which would involve assistance from IT for archives.

We are unable to provide you with information on **how many times has an elected councillor and/or council official met with a Scottish Government Minister** as the cost of providing it has been calculated as being in excess of the statutory maximum (£600). To explain this, it would involve an ACC Officer would have to go through records and calendars back to 2014 and involve assistance from IT to access archives. This has been calculated to be 111 hours, at the cost of £1,665 in total.

In order to comply with our obligations under the terms of Section 16 of the FOISA, we hereby give notice that we are refusing your request under the terms of Section 12 - Excessive Cost of Compliance - of the FOISA.

We 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 time period you are interested in. Please do contact the Access to Information team, who will be happy to advise you, if this is something you would like to pursue.

INFORMATION ABOUT THE HANDLING OF YOUR REQUEST

We handled your request for information in accordance with the provisions of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002. Please refer to the attached PDF for more information about your rights under FOISA.

We hope this helps with your request.

Yours sincerely,



Jennifer McDonald | Access to Information Officer

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