

From: [Foi Enquiries](#)
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: FOI-17-0254 - Training
Date: 03 March 2017 14:21:08
Attachments: [Further Information - Right to Review & Appeal.pdf](#)
[FOI-17-0254 - Training 2014 to 2016.xls](#)

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for your information request of 13 February 2017. Aberdeen City Council (ACC) has completed the necessary search for the information requested.

I would like to request the following information.

- 1) A list of all external training courses attended by council staff during the years 2014, 2015 and 2016.**
- 2) The above information broken down by date, title of course, location, number of staff in attendance and fees paid to training providers.**

We are unable to provide you with a full comprehensive **list of all external training courses attended by council staff during the years 2014,2015 and 2016 broken down by date, title of course, location, number of staff in attendance and fees paid to training providers** 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 extracting the information from approximately 12,000 entries, and compiling the information. This has been calculated at 10 minutes per file, which equates to over 2,000 hours, at the cost of over £30,000.

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

We also considered asking each service to provide the information they hold. Unfortunately, that would require each officer checking through their diaries for the last 3 years. As there are over 8,000 employees of ACC, we felt that this would be a manifestly unreasonable and costly task to undertake.

To provide you with some information, we have attached an extract from our ledger account for conferences, courses and training. Not all information you have requested is there and we have also removed any personal information relating to third parties and ACC officers below Head of Service level. Please also note that sometimes training is provided for free. Associated costs such as transport and accommodation will be processed through this ledger code.

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. Please do contact the Information Compliance team, who will be happy to advise you, if this is something you would like to pursue.

Please note that third party names and personal details, as well as the names of ACC Officers who are below Head of Service level have been redacted (blacked out) from the attached document. This is because ACC considers that this information is exempt from disclosure. In

order to comply with its obligations under the terms of Section 16 of the FOISA, ACC hereby gives notice that we are refusing your request under the terms of Section 38(1)(b) in conjunction with 38(2)(a)(i) – Personal Information - of the FOISA.

In making this decision ACC considered the following points:

ACC is of the opinion that Section 38(1)(b) applies to the information specified above as the information in question is personal information relating to living individuals, and the applicant is not the data subject.

ACC is of the opinion that Section 38(2)(a)(i) applies, as ACC considers that disclosure of this information would be a breach of the first Data Protection Principle (that personal information must be processed fairly and lawfully). Third parties named within the attached document would not expect ACC to release this information about them into the public domain under the FOISA.

We hope this helps with your request.

Yours sincerely,

Grant Webster
Information Compliance Officer

INFORMATION ABOUT THE HANDLING OF YOUR REQUEST

ACC 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.

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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).

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We wish to advise you that the information which was released with this response is too large to be uploaded to our disclosure log. If you are interested in viewing the attachment, please contact us at foienquiries@aberdeencity.gov.uk, quoting the appropriate reference number, and we will provide you with a copy.