



Manfred Stobartson
request-644804-9a765fcb@whatdotheyknow.com

Our Reference: 202000015408
Your Reference: GERS

27 February 2020

Dear Manfred Stobartson,

REQUEST UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION (SCOTLAND) ACT 2002 (FOISA)

Thank you for your request dated 9th February 2020 under the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 (FOISA).

Your request

You asked for the following information relating to the Government Expenditure and Revenue Scotland (GERS) publication:

1. What meetings / presentations / briefings, and on which dates has the 'Cabinet Secretary for Government Business & Constitutional Relations' participated in with regarding GERS, and the department that compiles GERS?
- 2.
3. Please provide copies of transcripts / notes / emails in regarding GERS between the 'Cabinet Secretary for Government Business & Constitutional Relations' and the department that compiles GERS?
- 4.
5. Does the Scottish government fully support the department compiling GERS and Roger Halliday or the 'Cabinet Secretary for Government Business & Constitutional Relations' regarding GERS?
- 6.

Response to your request

Scottish Ministers, special advisers and the Permanent Secretary are covered by the terms of the Lobbying (Scotland) Act 2016. See www.lobbying.scot

St Andrew's House, Regent Road, Edinburgh EH1 3DG
www.gov.scot



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I will respond to each of your questions in turn:

- 1. What meetings / presentations / briefings, and on which dates has the 'Cabinet Secretary for Government Business & Constitutional Relations' participated in with regarding GERS, and the department that compiles GERS?**

Section 17(1) of FOISA (information not held) requires the Scottish Government to notify you if it does not have the information you requested.

This is a formal notice under section 17(1) of FOISA that the Scottish Government does not have the information you have requested.

- 1. Please provide copies of transcripts / notes / emails in regarding GERS between the 'Cabinet Secretary for Government Business & Constitutional Relations' and the department that compiles GERS?**

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- 1. Does the Scottish government fully support the department compiling GERS and Roger Halliday or the 'Cabinet Secretary for Government Business & Constitutional Relations' regarding GERS?**

GERS is produced by Scottish Government statisticians. It is designated as a National Statistics product, which means that it is produced independently of Scottish Ministers and has been assessed by the UK Statistics Authority as being produced in line with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics. This means the statistics have been found to meet user needs, to be methodologically sound, explained well and produced free of political interference.

Your right to request a review

If you are unhappy with this response to your FOI request, you may ask us to carry out an internal review of the response, by writing to the Chief Economic Adviser, Gary Gillespie as:

Chief Economic Adviser
Scottish Government
St Andrew's House
Regent Road
Edinburgh

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or by email at: Gary.Gillespie@gov.scot

Your review request should explain why you are dissatisfied with this response, and should be made within 40 working days from the date when you received this letter. We will complete the review and tell you the result, within 20 working days from the date when we receive your review request.

If you are not satisfied with the result of the review, you then have the right to appeal to the Scottish Information Commissioner. More detailed information on your appeal rights is available on the Commissioner's website

at: <http://www.itspublicknowledge.info/YourRights/Unhappywiththeresponse/AppealingtoCommissioner.>

Yours sincerely

George Mitchell

OCEAEA : Economic Analysis And Modelling

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