

# THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION (SCOTLAND) ACT 2002

## REFUSAL NOTICE

**Request Number: 2023-685691**

**Date: 11 April 2023**

This refusal notice is provided in accordance with section 16 of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 (FOI(S)A).

You have requested certain information which we are not providing to you as it is otherwise accessible. The accompanying letter describes where the information you seek is available.

Section 16 of FOI(S)A requires us to complete a refusal notice when we are not providing information which is otherwise accessible. The details we are required to include in this refusal notice are set out below.

<b>Information which is the subject of the request</b>	<i>Who is overall responsible for The Ministerial Code</i>  <i>Dates the above name(s) have been overall responsible for the Ministerial Code</i>
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<b>Information which is otherwise accessible</b>	Information about the person with responsibility for the Ministerial Code and the dates during which they have been responsible for the Code.
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<b>Exemption(s)</b>	Section 25 - Information otherwise accessible
<b>Why exemption(s) applies</b>	Section 25 applies as information about the person with responsibility for the Ministerial Code, notably the former First Minister, Nicola Sturgeon MSP (who was in post at the date your request was received) and the dates during which she was responsible for the code, can be accessed in the Ministerial Code which is publicly available on the website for the Scottish Government at the following link:  <a href="https://www.gov.scot/publications/scottish-ministerial-code-2018-edition/">https://www.gov.scot/publications/scottish-ministerial-code-2018-edition/</a>
<b>Public interest (where relevant)</b>	As section 25 is an absolute exemption it is not subject to the public interest test.

