

Mr Harry Jamshidian

By email: [request-603763-418e7492@whatdotheyknow.com](mailto:request-603763-418e7492@whatdotheyknow.com)

Our Ref: SIR156828/A3073461

10 October 2019

Dear Mr Jamshidian

**Information Request – Effect of Trump International Golf International Scotland on Sand Dunes at Foveran Links**

Thank you for your information request, which we received on 15 September. We have considered your request under the Environmental Information (Scotland) Regulations 2004 ('the EIRs').

**Your Request**

"Could you please provide me with any information related to how the development of Donald Trump's golf course affected the sand dune system at Foveran Links, Aberdeen, and how the course was constructed in a way to counteract and ultimately prevent the moving of the dunes? This is in relation to the site imminently losing its SSSI status.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-48789620> "

**Our Response**

We have carried out a detailed search of the information we hold, and we have identified three key documents that meet the terms of your request:

1. Foveran Links SSSI Nature Conservation Act (NCA) Review – Earth Sciences
2. Foveran Links SSSI Nature Conservation Act (NCA) – Sand Dune
3. Foveran Links SSSI – Review of SSSI Notification Following Creation of Menie Links Golf Course

Copies of the documents are attached along with this letter. We have marked out (redacted) some personal data in the documents. Releasing the personal data into the public domain in response to an access to information request would breach the Data Protection Act 2018. We are therefore withholding the information under EIRs Regulation 11(2) (Personal data). We also redacted some information because it is not about how the golf course affected the sand dunes, and so is outwith the scope of your request.

I hope this information answers your query – you are welcome to contact us again if you are looking for any more specific information on Foveran Links.

## How We Handled Your Request

We believe you have asked for environmental information as defined in the Environmental Information (Scotland) Regulations 2004 ('the EIRs'), so we are dealing with your request under those regulations. To be able to use the EIRs, we must apply an exemption under section 39(2) of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 ('FOISA'). The Scottish Information Commissioner's guidance recommends that public authorities apply this exemption to environmental information and handle requests under the EIRs.

If you would like to find out more about the access to information legislation, there is a guidance booklet available on the Scottish Information Commissioner's website:

<http://www.itspublicknowledge.info/nmsruntime/saveasdialog.aspx?IID=5487&SID=5024>.

## Review and Appeal

I hope this information meets your requirements but if you are dissatisfied with how we have responded to your information request, please write to us within 40 working days explaining your concerns. You can contact us at Battleby, Redgorton, Perth, PH1 3EW or email us at [FOI@nature.scot](mailto:FOI@nature.scot). We will carry out a review of our response and contact you with our findings within 20 working days.

If you are not satisfied following this, you can make an appeal to the Scottish Information Commissioner within 6 months. The Scottish Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

Scottish Information Commissioner  
Kinburn Castle  
Doubledykes Road  
St Andrews  
Fife  
KY16 9DS

Online appeal service: [www.itspublicknowledge.info/Appeal](http://www.itspublicknowledge.info/Appeal)

Website: <http://www.itspublicknowledge.info/>

Telephone: 01334 464610

Yours sincerely

*Rhoda Davidson*

**Rhoda Davidson**  
Information Officer  
[FOI@nature.scot](mailto:FOI@nature.scot)