

Conor Matchett
request-925083-fa982580@whatdotheyknow.com

1 December 2022

Dear Mr Matchett,

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request that was received by Boundaries Scotland on 30th November 2022.

In your request you asked:

'I am writing to you to request the following information.

1) The total spend, broken down by financial or calendar year, on external legal advice since April 1, 2020. (I.e. 2020/21, 2021/22, 2022/23 to date)

1a) Please break this down by the list of associated cases or disputes, and their individual cost.

1b) If possible, please provide the final settlement or damages or other court mandated payment cost for any cases during which external legal advice was sought. If it is not possible to link each case to a settlement agreement, please provide the total cost of the settlements or payments.'

Response:

(1) Boundaries Scotland spent the following on legal advice:

- 2020/21: £0
- 2021/22: £8,600
- 2022/23: £0

(1a) Boundaries Scotland sought legal advice on the template of its 2019 Reviews of Electoral Arrangements final reports, to ensure the Commission had complied with all the legal requirements and that the report made such compliance clear.

(1b) There were no settlements or damages.

If you are unhappy with this response to your request, you may ask us to carry out an internal review by writing to Isabel Drummond-Murray, Secretary, Scottish Boundary Commissions' Secretariat, Thistle House, 91 Haymarket Terrace, Edinburgh, EH12 5HD or boundaries.scot@scottishboundaries.gov.uk. Your request should explain why you wish a

review to be carried out, and should be made within 40 working days of receipt of this letter, and we will reply within 20 working days of receipt.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review you have the right to apply directly to the Scottish Information Commissioner at Kinburn Castle, Doubledykes Road, St Andrews, Fife, KY16 9DS. In the event of an appeal to the Commissioner, the Commissioner will generally only be able to investigate the matters raised in the request for a review. Their website can be found at [Scottish Information Commissioner \(itspublicknowledge.info\)](http://itspublicknowledge.info).

Kind Regards,

By email

Alistair Grant
Office Manager

