



Percy Moat
request-972312-87194570@whatdotheyknow.com

Our Reference: 202300351847

17 May 2023

Dear Percy,

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

Thank you for your request dated 17 April 2023 under the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 (FOISA).

Your request

1. Please provide the total amount of funding awarded by Scottish Government to Scottish Enterprise each year, including funds administered on its behalf.
2. Please provide the total amount of funding directed by Scottish Government to Scottish Enterprise towards:
 - a. the cost of running offices in Belgium, including costs relating to leasing the building and equipment; and
 - b. staff costs relating to the offices in Belgium, including salary costs and expenses
3. Please provide the most recent audit into the Scottish Government's funding of Scottish Enterprise in Belgium.
4. Please provide the most recent business case relating to the funding of Scottish Enterprise offices in Belgium.
5. Please identify why Scottish Enterprise has staff located in Belgium.

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



Response to your request

While our aim is to provide information whenever possible, in this instance the Scottish Government does not have some of the information you have requested as it relates to operational matters for which Scottish Enterprise is responsible.

1. The amount of funding Scottish Enterprise receives from Scottish Government varies year to year. For example in 2022-23, SE's initial budget allocation from the Scottish Government was £269.22m. The Scottish Government transferred an additional £100.304m to Scottish Enterprise during 2022-23.

2 a. The Scottish Government pays a contribution to the annual running costs of Scotland House Brussels. For the financial year 2021-22, the Scottish Government's contribution was €288,000.

2 b. The Scottish Government does not direct funding to Scottish Enterprise specifically for staff costs relating to Scotland House Brussels. Scottish Enterprise is responsible for its own staffing costs.

3. Scottish Enterprise's annual accounts include information on its overseas offices and staff. These are published on Scottish Enterprise's website: [Accessing our information - Scottish Enterprise \(scottish-enterprise.com\)](https://www.scottish-enterprise.com).

4. The most recent business case relating to Scotland House Brussels is attached. Certain information including the appendices have been withheld under exemption 33(1)(b) - substantial prejudice to commercial interests.

5. We recommend that you contact Scottish Enterprise for information on the roles and responsibilities of its staff located in Belgium, as this is an operational matter for the agency.

The link below provides information on Scottish Government's International Offices, including Scotland House Brussels: [International Offices of the Scottish Government: FOI release - gov.scot \(www.gov.scot\)](https://www.gov.scot).

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 Colin Cook, Director for Economic Development, at Scottish Government, 5 Atlantic Quay, 150 Broomielaw Glasgow, G2 8LU or directorded@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 in accordance with FOISA as soon as possible, and not later than 20 working days from the day following the date 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.aspx>.

Yours sincerely

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