

6 November 2020

Request under The Freedom Of Information (Scotland) Act 2002

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request dated 9 October, in which you requested the following:

I am formally requesting the following information under the Freedom of Information Act in connection with the Event Industry Support Fund which was being administered by VisitScotland

- 1. A list of all companies and businesses whose applications were successful in securing a grant under the terms of the fund.*
- 2. A list of all sums awarded to companies and businesses in 1. above*
- 3. A list of all companies and businesses whose applications were unsuccessful.*

I have considered your request, and can respond as follows:

At this time the information you have asked for at point 1 of your request is not yet available. This is because applications to the fund are still being assessed.

Regarding your request at point 2, I can confirm that the amount to be made available to each successful applicant is £10,000, as stated in the guidance for the fund.

I have provided a link to the guidance and in there you will also read that information on all grant awards will be published on the European Commission Competition database when available.

<https://www.visitscotland.org/binaries/content/assets/dot-org/pdf/events/funding/events-industry-support-fund---final-guidelines---240820.pdf>

Regarding your request for companies and businesses that are unsuccessful in their application, I can confirm that, even once all assessments are completed, it is not VisitScotland's intention to publish or release this information. VisitScotland believes that disclosure would harm the commercial interests of those businesses, and we would rely on section 33 of the The Freedom Of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 to support this decision.

I hope this response is helpful to you. If, however, you are not satisfied with the response or the manner in which your application has been handled, you may in the first instance contact VisitScotland's Chief Executive, Malcolm Roughead, whose contact details are set out below:

Mr Malcolm Roughead
Chief Executive
VisitScotland
Ocean Point One
94 Ocean Drive

Edinburgh, EH6 6JH
Telephone: 0131 472 2201
Fax: 0131 472 2223
E-mail: malcolm.roughead@visitscotland.com

If you wish to request a review of your application under either the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 or the Environmental Information (Scotland) Regulations 2004, your request should be submitted to us in writing, or another permanent format (for example e-mail or voice recording), and be received by us within 40 days of the date of this letter. Any request for a review should also set out, in as much detail as possible, the reasons why you are not satisfied with our response or the manner in which we have dealt with your application.

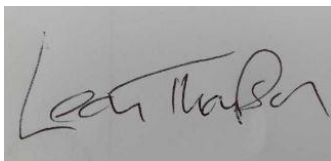
If you are still not satisfied with our handling of your application after we have responded to your request for a review, you have a right to apply to the Scottish Information Commissioner for a decision on whether we have dealt with your request in accordance with the Act.

The Scottish Information Commissioner may be contacted at:

Scottish Information Commissioner
Kinburn Castle
Doubledykes Road
St Andrews, Fife
KY16 9DS
Telephone: 01334 464610
Fax: 01334 464611
E-mail: enquiries@itspublicknowledge.info

You also have the right to appeal to the Court of Session in Scotland on a point of law concerning our response.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink on a light grey background. The signature appears to read "Leon Thompson".

Leon Thompson
Government and Parliamentary Affairs Manager
VisitScotland