

17 August 2021

Request under The Freedom Of Information (Scotland) Act 2002

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request dated 20 July 2021, in which you requested the following information:

- How many applications to the first round of the Scotland Coach Operators – COVID-19 Business Support and Continuity Fund were received, and the total value of those applications?
- How many of those applications in point 1 were rejected, and the total value of those rejected applications.

I have considered your request and can respond as follows:

- Total number of applications: 142
- Rejected applications: 25. These were rejected as they did not meet the criteria set out in the guidance document. The guidance document is enclosed for information.
- Total value of approved and accepted grant awards: £8,396,500
- Potential value of rejected applications: £1,257,000

Please note 111 applicants were awarded grants from the fund. Further to this, 6 applicants declined a grant award offer as they chose to accept an award from a different fund. Businesses could only be successful and receive a grant award from one of the funds announced by the Scottish Government on or since 15 December 2020 to help the tourism and events industry to survive the impacts of COVID-19, regardless of the body administering the fund.

VisitScotland administered this fund on behalf of the Scottish Government and it was developed in conjunction with the leading industry body, Confederation of Passenger Transport (CPT)

We hope this information is helpful to you. If, however, you are not satisfied with our response or the manner in which we have dealt with your application, you may in the first instance contact our 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.

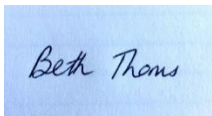
If you are still not satisfied with our handling of your application after we have responded to your request for a review, you have a right to apply to the Scottish Information Commissioner for a decision on whether we have dealt with your request in accordance with the Act.

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 blue rectangular box containing a handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Beth Thoms".

Beth Thoms
Government and Parliamentary Affairs Executive
VisitScotland