

9 December 2025

## **Your request for information under the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 (“the Act”)**

Thank you for your email which was received by VisitScotland on 26 November 2025 at 6.05pm requesting :-

“Is your Christmas party funded by staff, or the organisation? Has this changed in the past 2 years? Has this been at the request of Scottish Government? I am not requesting a cost breakdown as part of my request, just the status of its funding.”

### VisitScotland’s response

We confirm that VisitScotland holds the information which you have requested.

In December 2023 VisitScotland contributed £20 per staff member towards Christmas social events. Since then, Christmas social events (usually held by team or department) have not been funded by VisitScotland. Staff are required to pay for their own lunch/party depending on what they choose to do. This decision was made by the VisitScotland Executive Leadership Group and not by the Scottish Government. To our knowledge VisitScotland has not received any guidance from the Scottish Government on this matter.

Please note that an anonymised version of this response will be made publicly available on VisitScotland’s website.

### Your right to request a review

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) to:

Ms Vicki Miller  
Chief Executive  
VisitScotland  
Waverley Court  
4 East Market Street  
Edinburgh  
EH8 8BG

Telephone: 0131 473 3603  
E-mail: [vicki.miller@visitscotland.com](mailto:vicki.miller@visitscotland.com)

The request for a review should 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 not satisfied with the result of the review, then you have the right to appeal to the Scottish Information Commissioner.

You can contact the Scottish Information Commissioner at:

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

Telephone: 01334 464610

Fax: 01334 464611

Email: [enquiries@itspublicknowledge.info](mailto:enquiries@itspublicknowledge.info)

A link to the Commissioner's website which provides further information can be found here: [Homepage | Scottish Information Commissioner](#)

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