

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

Thank you for your request dated 17<sup>th</sup> June 2020 under the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 (FOISA).

Your request

You asked for

1. The Scottish Government email dated 5 June 2020 with the subject 'Shielding -next steps-question set for stakeholder organisations'.
2. Responses to this email, including attachments, from the stakeholder organisations contacted.

Response to your request

I enclose a copy of most of the information you requested.

While our aim is to provide information whenever possible, in this instance we are unable to provide some of the information you have requested because an exemption(s) under section(s) 30(c) – *substantial prejudice to the effective conduct of public affairs in relation to communications with external stakeholders* – of FOISA applies to that information. The reasons why that exemption(s) applies are explained in the Annex to this letter.

We have also redacted emails under *Section 38(1)(b) Personal Data relating to Third Party*.

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 Heads of Health and Social Care Analysis: Basement Rear, St Andrew's House, Edinburgh, EH1 3DG; [HeadofHSCA@gov.scot](mailto:HeadofHSCA@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>.

## **ANNEX**

### **REASONS FOR NOT PROVIDING INFORMATION**

An exemption applies

An exemption(s) under section(s) 30(c) - *substantial prejudice to the effective conduct of public affairs in relation to communications with external stakeholders* - of FOISA applies to some of the information you have requested.

The exemption applies in this instance because some organisations shared their own unpublished research with us to provide greater context to their responses, which is not necessarily in the public domain and not our data to share.