

Document 1

From: [Redacted: S.38(1)(b) Personal Information]@gov.scot>
Sent: Wednesday, March 8, 2023 4:26 PM
To: [Redacted: S.38(1)(b) Personal Information]@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: Journalist FOI request - for clearance

Happy, thanks

[Redacted: S.38(1)(b) Personal Information] Head of Active Scotland | Scottish Government | Area 3J
North | Victoria Quay | Edinburgh | EH6 6QQ

 [Redacted: S.38(1)(b) Personal Information]@gov.scot



From: [Redacted: S.38(1)(b) Personal Information]@gov.scot>
Sent: 08 March 2023 15:54
To: [Redacted: S.38(1)(b) Personal Information]@gov.scot>
Subject: Journalist FOI request - for clearance

Hey

Can you clear the FOI below please, I have attached the original FOI request. sportscotland have confirmed that they hold some information on swimming pool closures and we have answered Question 8 as it relates to SG policy.

Thanks

[Redacted: S.38(1)(b) Personal Information]

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

Thank you for your request dated 09 February 2023 under the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 (FOISA).

Your request

You asked for

1. How many swimming pools are there in total in the UK? Please share a breakdown of private and public swimming pools.
2. How many private swimming pools are there in each country that make up the UK?
3. What is the cost of energy bills for private swimming pools in Scotland for each year, over the last 3 years?
4. How many private swimming pools in the UK have closed since January 2020?
5. Out of the total number of private swimming pools in the UK that have closed since January 2020, which country (England, Wales, Northern Ireland, or Scotland) has the highest number of closures? Please share the figures.

6. What is the number of pools available in Scotland between 2020 and the end of 2022?
7. According to your data, what is the biggest factor in the closure of private pools in Scotland?
8. Is the Scottish government providing any funding to mitigate this problem?

Response to your request

Please note that in reference to Questions 1 to 7 the Scottish Government does not have the information you have asked for.

This is a formal notice under section 17(1) of FOISA that the Scottish Government does not have the information you have requested.

However, you may wish to contact **sportscotland** at FOI@sportscotland.org.uk who may be able to help you.

In response to Question 8. Is the Scottish Government providing any funding to mitigate this problem?

We are fully aware that energy costs are an issue facing many sports facilities and recognise the particular challenges for local authorities in maintaining swimming pools and other facilities during this time. Given the limited levers available to us, the Scottish Government will continue to press the UK Government to act on the cost of living and energy prices, in order to address the problem at source.

Our settlements from the UK Government have suffered a decade of austerity. In the most challenging budget settlement since devolution, we are providing over £13.3bn in the Local Government Settlement 2023-24. We are increasing the resources available to Local Government by over £670 million. Ultimately, it is for locally elected representatives to make local decisions on how best to deliver services to their local communities.

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 Richard Foggo, the Director of Population Health (Directorofpopulationhealth@gov.scot; Scottish Government, St Andrew's House, Regent Road, Edinburgh, EH1 3DG). 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>.

[Redacted: S.38(1)(b) Personal Information]

Triage and Policy Officer | Active Scotland Division | Scottish Government | Area 1B South | Victoria Quay | Edinburgh | EH6 6QQ

① **[Redacted: S.38(1)(b) Personal Information]**@gov.scot

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Document 2

From: Policy Enquiry <Policy.Enquiry@sportscotland.org.uk>

Sent: Wednesday, February 15, 2023 8:14 AM

To: **[Redacted: S.38(1)(b) Personal Information]**@gov.scot>

Cc: Policy Enquiry <Policy.Enquiry@sportscotland.org.uk>

Subject: FW: Journalist FOI request - private swimming pools

Hi **[Redacted: S.38(1)(b) Personal Information]**,

Apologies for the delay in coming back to you. I wanted to check with colleagues what level of information we held before responding.

We would only be in a position to partially respond to three or four of the questions highlighted in the FOI. Much of the focus of the FOI is around private pools and across the UK. While we have some information on commercial pools, our focus is on public pools, and we would not be in a position to provide a complete data set.

Happy for you to suggest to the individual to approach **sportscotland** (with the usual FOI response/email address), but perhaps with the caveat that **sportscotland** may not hold all the information sought after.

Thanks,

[Redacted: S.38(1)(b) Personal Information]

[Redacted: S.38(1)(b) Personal Information] | Government Liaison Officer |
sportscotland

Doges | Templeton on the Green | 62 Templeton Street | Glasgow | G40 1DA

m: **[Redacted: S.38(1)(b) Personal Information]**

w: www.sportscotland.org.uk

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sportscotland – the national agency for sport
spòrsalba - am buidheann nàiseanta airson spòrs

Awarding funds from The National Lottery

From: [Redacted: S.38(1)(b) Personal Information]gov.scot <[Redacted: S.38(1)(b) Personal Information][@gov.scot](mailto:gov.scot)>

Sent: 09 February 2023 15:37

To: Policy Enquiry <Policy.Enquiry@sportscotland.org.uk>

Cc: [Redacted: S.38(1)(b) Personal Information][@sportscotland.org.uk](mailto:sportscotland.org.uk)

[Redacted: S.38(1)(b) Personal Information][@sportscotland.org.uk](mailto:sportscotland.org.uk) [Redacted: S.38(1)(b) Personal Information][@sportscotland.org.uk](mailto:sportscotland.org.uk)>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] FW: Journalist FOI request - private swimming pools

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.
Hi

We have received the attached FOI in, having checked with a colleagues in different areas of the Scottish Government we do not believe this is information or data we would hold and our intention is to reply with such. Can I enquire if sportscotland would hold any such data and if so we can reply with the usual FOI email address for sportscotland.

Thanks

[Redacted: S.38(1)(b) Personal Information]

Triage and Policy Officer | Active Scotland Division | Scottish Government | Area 1B South | Victoria Quay | Edinburgh | EH6 6QQ

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