

FOI – 202500491955

Annex A

Documentation pertaining to your questions are exempt under the following FOISA exemptions:

- Information is exempt under section (25)(1) as it can be reasonably obtained without asking for it under FOISA.
- Information is exempt under section 29(1)(a) if it relates to the formulation or development of government policy.
- Information is exempt under section 29(1)(b) if it relates to communications between Ministers. This includes communications relating to proceedings of the Scottish Cabinet (or of any committee of that Cabinet).

Each of these principles is subject to the public interest test, this means assessing whether, in all the circumstances of the case, the public interest is better served by disclosing or withholding the information.

In the case of this FOI request, information held by the Scottish Government pertains to the Children (Care System, Care-experienced Persons and Services Planning) (Scotland) Bill which is currently progressing through Parliament. As information is already available on the Bill through the parliament website, there is no need to provide an alternative right of access to it through FOISA

Any additional documentation continue to relate to the formulation and development of government policy, on account of the CCCESP Bill still progressing through Parliament. Similarly, Ministerial communications related to the Bill are unable to be shared.

As such, I hereby provide you with formal notice under sections 29(1)(a) and 29(1)(b) of FOISA that the Scottish Government cannot at this time share additional documentation related to your questions.