

Information Management and Governance Scottish Parliament Edinburgh EH99 1SP

foi.officer@parliament.scot

11 January 2022

Dear Requester

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION: 2021-669657

We acknowledge your request for the following information:

Please could you provide me with a schedule of resettlement grants disbursed by SCPB by year and by MSP including the length of service and base financial amount used in the calculation.

Please indicate any payments made that were not directly in line with the standard formula and the reason for this.

Your request was received on 14 December 2021 and has been handled in accordance with the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 (FOI(S)A).

An MSP resettlement grant is payable if an individual is an MSP immediately before the Parliament's dissolution and at the subsequent election either:

- does not stand for election as a Constituency or Regional Member; or
- stands and is not elected.

An MSP resettlement grant is not payable should the individual resign as an MSP at any other time outwith the dissolution of parliament.

Information about the calculation used to determine resettlement grants is set out in Schedule 2 to the Scottish Parliament Pensions Act 2009 which can be accessed here: <u>Scottish Parliamentary Pensions Act 2009</u> (legislation.gov.uk). All payments were calculated in line with the standard formula set out under the legislation.

We are unable to provide details of the specific amounts paid by year and by individual as this is the personal data of the former Members receiving such payments and so it cannot be disclosed without their agreement. We consider this information to be exempt from disclosure in terms of section 38(1)(b) of FOI(S)A for the reasons set out in the attached a refusal notice.

In keeping with our FOI procedures, this information may also be posted on the Parliament's disclosure log (usually within 24 hours). For further details on the Parliament's Disclosure Log and the information released under FOI, visit:

https://archive2021.parliament.scot/abouttheparliament/17700.aspx

The supply of information under FOI does not constitute permission for its use in a way that would infringe copyright https://www.parliament.scot/about/copyright

We would welcome feedback or comment on how we handled your request. Please feel free to contact the Head of Information Governance at <u>foi.officer@parliament.scot</u>

Please find below Annex A, which explains how we handle FOI requests and reviews.

We are currently working remotely and so would ask you to contact us by email at <u>foi.officer@parliament.scot</u>

Yours sincerely,

Robin Davidson Head of Information Governance

REQUESTS MADE UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION (SCOTLAND) ACT 2002

How we handle FOI requests

Information on how we handle FOI requests is available on the Parliament's website at:

https://www.parliament.scot/about/information-rights/requesting-information

Alternatively, please contact the Public Information & Resources Team to request a copy. https://www.parliament.scot/contact-us

Review

If you are dissatisfied with the way in which we have dealt with your request for information, you can ask us to review our decision and actions. You must do this in writing (or other permanent form) within 40 working days of the date of this letter, stating the reasons for your dissatisfaction, and we will respond within 20 working days of receipt. A request for a review should be made to the Head of Information Governance:

Post: Head of Information Governance The Scottish Parliament Edinburgh EH99 1SP Telephone: 0131 348 6913

We welcome calls using the Text Relay service or in British Sign Language through <u>contactSCOTLAND-BSL</u>.

E-mail: <u>foi.officer@parliament.scot</u>

Application to the Scottish Information Commissioner

If, on the outcome of any review, you are still dissatisfied, or if we are unable to resolve any other complaint, then you can contact the Scottish Information Commissioner:

Post:	The Office of the Scottish Information Commissioner Kinburn Castle Doubledykes Road St Andrews Fife KY16 9DS
Email:	www.itspublicknowledge.info/Appeal
Telephone: Fax:	01334 464610 01334 464611

Website: www.itspublicknowledge.info

A decision by the Scottish Information Commissioner may be appealed on a point of law to the Court of Session.

Copyright in relation to information provided

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Feedback or comment

We would welcome feedback or comment on how we handled your request. Please contact the Head of Information Governance.

Data Protection

If you wish to find out more about how we use your personal data then you can access our Privacy Notice at the following link: <u>https://www.parliament.scot/about/information-rights/data-protection/privacy-notices/freedom-of-information-handling</u>

Complaints

If you are dissatisfied with the way in which we dealt with your enquiry, then you may wish to raise the matter with Public Information and Resources.

How to contact us

- Post: The Scottish Parliament Edinburgh EH99 1SP
- Telephone: 0131 348 5000 0800 092 7500 (Public Enquiries) 0131 348 5395 (Gàidhlig)

We also welcome calls using the Text Relay service or in British Sign Language through <u>contactSCOTLAND-BSL</u>.

E-mail: info@parliament.scot