

20 May 2025

Kenneth Gibson MSP
Convener
Finance and Public Administration Committee
Scottish Parliament
Edinburgh
EH99 1SP

Dear Convener,

Cost-effectiveness of Scottish public inquiries

Thank you for your letter of 24 April in which you requested to be updated on the Scottish COVID-19 Inquiry's expenditure to the end of March 2025. The expenditure up until 31 March 2025 is set out below.

Breakdown of costs	Q4 2024-25 (January – March 2025)	2024-25 Total
Staff costs	£2,426,600	£9,751,200
Operational costs	£274,900	£2,735,900
Expenses, including witness expenses	£18,700	£45,300
Let's Be Heard and other engagement	£240,800	£593,700
Inquiry legal services	£628,700	£1,810,300
Research and consultancy	£109,700	£398,700
Core participant fees	£1,178,300	£1,646,300
TOTAL	£4,877,700	£16,981,400

The Scottish COVID-19 Inquiry costs are published on its website after the end of each financial quarter. The expenditure for the financial quarter ending in March 2025 is now available on our website: [Inquiry costs | Scottish COVID-19 Inquiry](#).

Yours sincerely,

Ian Duddy
Chief Executive & Secretary to the Scottish COVID-19 Inquiry