



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

Information Management and Governance
Scottish Parliament
Edinburgh
EH99 1SP

foi.officer@parliament.scot

16 December 2022

Dear Requester,

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION: 2022-681992

We acknowledge your request for information seeking:

- 1. How many events, stalls, exhibitions, drop-ins, social events and mixers hosted or supported by fossil fuel companies and lobbyists for the fossil fuel industry or clients have been held during the current Parliamentary session*
- 2. How many of the above events are planned to be held over the coming year*
- 3. How many events, stalls, exhibitions, drop-ins, social events and mixers have been hosted by fossil fuel companies and or lobbyists for the fossil fuel industry or clients have been held that have not appeared on the lobbying register*

Your request was received on 23 November 2022 and has been handled in accordance with the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 (FOI(S)A).

Responding to each part of your request in turn, the position is as follows:

- 1. How many events, stalls, exhibitions, drop-ins, social events and mixers hosted or supported by fossil fuel companies and lobbyists for the fossil fuel industry or clients have been held during the current Parliamentary session***

The information you have requested is not held by the Scottish Parliament as we have no business need to collect or collate information about whether MSP sponsored events (including stalls, exhibitions, drop ins), and MSP –sponsored exhibitions taking place at the Parliament are hosted or supported by fossil fuel companies and lobbyists for the fossil fuel industry or clients. Parliamentary teams have no organisational role in any impromptu or informal social mixers/events that Members may attend and therefore do not hold this information.

MSP Sponsored events are facilitated by parliament but MSPs take responsibility for sponsoring the event. We have attached the Guidance for Member Sponsored Events. Details of these events can be found through the [Open Data portal](#). This data details the date, the sponsor and the title of the event. This information does not record whether the events are hosted or supported by fossil fuel companies and lobbyists for the fossil fuel industry or clients.

Information on regulated lobbying can be found on the [Scottish Parliament Lobbying Register](#). You can use this to search for any fossil fuel companies you require information on.

2. How many of the above events are planned to be held over the coming year

The information you have requested in this part of the request is not held by the Scottish Parliament for the reasons provided in response to part 1 of your request. Details of future events are subject to change and for that reason are released to all Members on a fortnightly basis in the Events and Exhibitions Bulletin (which lists all MSP-sponsored events taking place weekly) prior to the event date.

3. How many events, stalls, exhibitions, drop-ins, social events and mixers have been hosted by fossil fuel companies and or lobbyists for the fossil fuel industry or clients have been held that have not appeared on the lobbying register

This information that you have requested in this part of the request is not held by the Scottish Parliament for the reasons provided in response to part 1 of the request as we have no business need to collect or collate this information. Organisations that are registered on the Lobbying Register operate under 6-monthly statutory reporting periods. These reporting period dates and deadlines are based on the initial date of application to join the register. This may mean that some organisations have instances of regulated lobbying still to be submitted to the register but have not yet done so.

It is a matter for any organisation how it wishes to manage its administration of ensuring it meets its compliance responsibilities under the Lobbying (Scotland) Act 2016. This means that it can submit instances of regulated lobbying immediately after meetings, events etc., or wait until its period deadline is reached.

Enforcement procedures are set out in the [Parliamentary Guidance](#) (at page 28). Requesters should establish whether 'regulated' lobbying has taken place, i.e. the organisation is one that can be registered under the terms of the Act, and if so, that regulated lobbying has been undertaken without being reported on and submitted to the Lobbying Register.

If you believe this is the case, then the Commissioner for Ethical Standards in Public Life in Scotland can investigate on admissible complaints. Details on how to make such a complaint are in our Parliamentary Guidance as mentioned above, and on the Commissioner's website [Investigation process Lobbyists | Ethical Standards Commissioner](#).

In line with the technical requirements of FOI(S)A we have provided a notice advising that the information you have requested is not held by the Scottish Parliament.

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 by e-mail at foi.officer@parliament.scot

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

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

Yours sincerely,

Cara Dickson
Information Compliance Officer

**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:

[Privacy notice: Information rights: Freedom of Information request handling | Scottish Parliament Website](#)

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 5281

We welcome calls using the Text Relay service or in British Sign Language through [contactSCOTLAND-BSL](#).

E-mail: foi.officer@parliament.scot

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: 01334 464610

Fax: 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

The supply of information under FOI does not constitute permission for its use in a way that would infringe copyright. You should obtain permission from the copyholder before any such use.

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:

[Privacy notice: Information rights: Freedom of Information request handling | Scottish Parliament Website](#)

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 [contactSCOTLAND-BSL](#).

E-mail: info@parliament.scot