

18 October 2022

2022-067

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION (SCOTLAND) ACT 2002

REQUEST DETAILS

Please find below our response to your correspondence dated 27 September, in which you made the following request under the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002:

If possible can you provide to a tax payer here in Scotland the monies spent on UKAS accreditation project for scene examination in Scotland since SPA (and SPSA if appropriate.)

RESPONSE

Your request for information has been considered and the Scottish Police Authority (SPA) is able to provide the following;

The majority of the work of SPA Forensic Services has been accredited by the United Kingdom Accreditation Service (UKAS) to ISO17025. This provides third party quality assurance on the technical and managerial standards in place.

UKAS also provides accreditation services for UK crime scene investigation service providers to ISO17020. Forensic Services is working towards accreditation in this area.

Spend in relation to UKAS accreditation to ISO17020, since 2019, is detailed -

Detail	Date	Amount (excl VAT)	Amount (inc VAT)
ISO 17020 Pre Assessment – Edinburgh	22 Aug 2019	£4551.50	£5461.80
ISO 17020 Assessment – Edinburgh	20-22 April 2021	£18498.50	£22198.20

In regard to monies spent on UKAS accreditation to ISO17020 by the predecessor body Scottish Police Services Authority (SPSA), the SPA does not hold the information requested. Therefore, this represents a notice in terms of Section 17 of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 - Information not held.

By way of explanation, in line with Records Management Policy, and Record Retention Standard Operating Procedure (SOP), records are routinely destroyed to ensure good business practice and compliance with relevant legislation.

RIGHT TO REVIEW

If you are dissatisfied with the way in which your request has been dealt with you are entitled, in the first instance, to request a review of our actions and decisions

Your request must specify the matter which gives rise to your dissatisfaction and it must be submitted within 40 working days of receiving this response - either by email to foi@spa.police.uk or by post to Corporate Management Team, Scottish Police Authority, 1 Pacific Quay, Glasgow, G51 1DZ.

If you remain dissatisfied following the outcome of that review, you are thereafter entitled to apply to the Office of the Scottish Information Commissioner within six months for a decision.

You can apply [online](#), by email to enquiries@itspublicknowledge.info or by post to Office of the Scottish Information Commissioner, Kinburn Castle, Doubledykes Road, St Andrews, Fife, KY16 9DS.

Should you wish to appeal against the Scottish Information Commissioner's decision, there is an appeal to the Court of Session on a point of law only.

As part of our commitment to demonstrate openness and transparency in respect of the information we hold, an anonymised version of this response will be posted to the Scottish Police Authority Freedom of Information [Disclosure Log](#) in seven days' time.