



LETTER SENT BY E-MAIL ONLY

9 August 2024

2024/25-047

Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002

Request

Please find below our response to your correspondence dated 22 July, in which you made the following request under the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002.

“As of the date of this request, please can you tell me the total costs incurred by your organisation in relation to the Sheku Bayoh public inquiry. If possible, please can you provide a breakdown of these costs (such as legal, staffing or the hire of external consultants).

And please can you tell how much, if any, of this expense has been reimbursed by the public inquiry as per its mechanism for some participants to claim back legal expenses incurred.

Again, if possible, please provide any details you hold of how much human resource has gone into your Sheku Bayoh public inquiry commitments (such as the number of staffing hours taken so far or how many officials have worked on the responses).”

Response

The Scottish Police Authority does not hold the information requested.¹

To explain, legal advice was provided by the Authority’s in-house solicitors as part of business as usual. There was no dedicated legal resource provided for the Sheku Bayoh Public Inquiry, and no time recorded or costs allocated to the Inquiry from SPA Legal Services.

¹ This represents a notice in terms of Section 17 of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 - Information not held.

Similarly, Forensic Services staff time and costs were not formally recorded. However, to assist, we can confirm that 32 members of Forensic Services staff had some involvement in gathering information, preparing witness statements and / or witness input to the Inquiry.

Right to Review

If you are dissatisfied with the outcome, you can ask us to review our response. If you want us to carry out a review, please let us know within 40 working days. You must specify the reason for your dissatisfaction and submit your request to foi@spa.police.uk or by letter to Scottish Police Authority, 1 Pacific Quay, Glasgow, G51 1DZ.

If you remain dissatisfied after review, you can appeal to the Scottish Information Commissioner within six months. You can apply [online](#), by email to enquiries@itspublicknowledge.info or by letter to Scottish Information Commissioner, Kinburn Castle, Doubledykes Road, St Andrews, Fife, KY16 9DS.

Should you wish to appeal against the Commissioner's decision, you can appeal to the Court of Session, only if you think the law has not been applied correctly.

This response will be posted to our [Disclosure Log](#) after seven days.

Yours faithfully

SPA Corporate Management