



Dear

Thank you for your request for information under the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 (the "Act") dated 30 July 2016. Under that request, you asked for the following information to be released to you:

Information on all consultants used by Colleges Scotland for the period from 1 October 2012 until the present date, including:

1. Name of consultant or consultancy
2. The remit/purpose
3. Date appointed including length of contract if appropriate
4. Total cost per consultation
5. Copies of Invoices
6. Source of funding: Whether cost is covered by Colleges Scotland finances or funding provided by a specific body or fund.

Please find attached a spreadsheet which contains a summary of the information you requested.

Parts of the information you requested have been withheld in terms of the exemptions contained in Sections 33(1)(b) (Commercial Interests), 36(1) Confidentiality and 38(1) (Personal Information) of the Act.

Personal Information

The information withheld under Section 38(1) is personal data as defined in the Data Protection Act 1998 ("DPA"). Disclosure of this information otherwise than under FOISA would breach the first data protection principle as set out in paragraph 1 of Schedule 1 of the DPA. Accordingly, Colleges Scotland is entitled to apply section 38(1)(b) of FOISA (personal information exemption), which is an absolute exemption, and redact this data. The information which has been withheld under this exemption on this occasion is names of individual consultants and names, addresses and other personal data contained on invoices from consultants.

Commercial Interests

The information withheld under Section 33(1)(b) has been withheld as it is commercially sensitive information. This information includes the specific details of the commercial arrangements with Colleges Scotland's consultants. Disclosure of such information would be likely to substantially prejudice the commercial interests of Colleges Scotland and/or its members, as well as the consultants with which Colleges Scotland has contracted, as these are commercially sensitive contractual terms for each consultancy. Colleges Scotland is therefore entitled to apply the commercial interests exemption and withhold this information. However, in the interests of disclosing as much information as possible, we have been able to provide you with the total figure spent on consultancy arrangements during the relevant period.

This exemption is not absolute, and in considering whether or not to apply the exemption, Colleges Scotland has applied the 'public interest' test contained in Section 2(1)(b) of the Act and considers that in the circumstances, the public interest in disclosing the information requested is not outweighed by that in maintaining the exemption.

Your right to seek a review of the response

If you are not satisfied with our response or our reasoning set out above, you have forty working days in which to request a review of our decision. Any request should be put in writing and should be sent to Shona Struthers at the address noted below. The request should:

- (a) detail your request for a review of our decision to be undertaken;
- (b) describe the nature of your original request; and
- (c) explain the reasons why you are dissatisfied with our response.

Shona Struthers
Colleges Scotland
Argyll Court
Castle Business Park
Stirling
FK9 4TY

If you remain dissatisfied with how your request for information has been dealt with, you also have the right to apply to the Scottish Information Commissioner for a decision as to whether Colleges Scotland has handled your request properly.

Information relating to your right to seek a review is available from the Scottish Information Commissioner's web page at:

<http://www.itspublicknowledge.info/YourRights/Askingforareview.aspx>

Or by contacting the Scottish Information Commissioner's Office at the following address:

Scottish Information Commissioner
Kinburn Castle
Doubledykes Road,
St Andrews
Fife
KY16 9DS
Telephone: 01334 464610
Fax: 01334 464611
e-mail: enquiries@itspublicknowledge.info
Website: www.itspublicknowledge.info

This concludes Colleges Scotland's response to your information request.

Yours sincerely

Shona



ANALYSIS OF CONSULTANTS COSTS
OCTOBER 2012 TO JULY 2016

Contract No	Name of Consultant	Remit/Purpose	Contract Start Date	Contract End Date	Source of Funding	Invoiced (inc Expenses & VAT) £	Copy Invoices
CS 0042	Allardyce Consulting LTD	Reform of CS Support Agencies	01.03.14	31.07.14	Scottish Funding Council	REDACTED	REDACTED
CS 0052	REDACTED	Public Affairs Project Work	20.10.14	24.11.14	CS Finance	REDACTED	REDACTED
CS 0044	BeeDeeHR	National Pay Bargaining Support	14.05.14	13.05.15	Scottish Funding Council	REDACTED	REDACTED
CS 0066	BeeDeeHR	National Pay Bargaining Support	01.06.15	31.07.15	Scottish Funding Council	REDACTED	REDACTED
CS 0068	BeeDeeHR	National Pay Bargaining Support	13.07.15	31.07.15	Scottish Funding Council	REDACTED	REDACTED
ASC 0028	REDACTED	Copyright Consultancy Service	01.08.12	31.07.13	CS Finance	REDACTED	REDACTED
CS 0036	REDACTED	Copyright Consultancy Service	01.08.13	31.07.14	CS Finance	REDACTED	REDACTED
CS 0041	REDACTED	Copyright Consultancy Service	01.02.14	31.07.14	CS Finance	REDACTED	REDACTED
CS 0050	REDACTED	Copyright Consultancy Service	01.08.14	31.07.15	CS Finance	REDACTED	REDACTED
CS 0056	REDACTED	Copyright Consultancy Service	01.02.15	31.07.15	CS Finance	REDACTED	REDACTED
CS 0065	REDACTED	Copyright Consultancy Service	01.06.15	31.07.15	CS Finance	REDACTED	REDACTED
CS 0071	REDACTED	Copyright Consultancy Service	01.08.15	31.07.16	CS Finance	REDACTED	REDACTED
CS 0037	REDACTED	Design Services	19.09.13	31.12.13	CS Finance	REDACTED	REDACTED
PO CS5708	EMSI	Economic Impact Study		Purchase Order	CS Finance	REDACTED	REDACTED
CS 0070	Eglington	Provision of Coaching and Mentoring Services	01.11.14	31.07.15	CS Finance	REDACTED	REDACTED
CS 0075	GM Associates	Pay Arrangements within the College Sector	20.11.15	31.12.15	CS Finance	REDACTED	REDACTED
CS 0062	Grayling	Communication and Public Affairs Support	09.03.15	31.07.15	CS Finance	REDACTED	REDACTED
CS 0072	Grayling	Communication and Public Affairs Support	03.08.15	30.09.15	CS Finance	REDACTED	REDACTED
CS 0074	Grayling	Communication and Public Affairs Support	01.10.15	31.03.16	CS Finance	REDACTED	REDACTED
CS 0077	Grayling	Communication and Public Affairs Support	01.04.16	31.07.16	CS Finance	REDACTED	REDACTED
PO CS3273	Grayling	Vision Day Support		Purchase Order	CS Finance	REDACTED	REDACTED
PO CS3677	Grayling	Workshop on Business Strategy for CS		Purchase Order	CS Finance	REDACTED	REDACTED
PO CS4494	Grayling	Crisis Communications and Ongoing Support		Purchase Order	CS Finance	REDACTED	REDACTED
CS 0031	Chevrah Consult Ltd	Development of a Positioning Paper on the Vision of the Sector for the Regional Leads	14.12.12	28.02.13	CS Finance	REDACTED	REDACTED
CS 0048	REDACTED	Temporary Resource to Support Funding and Finance Committee until Recruitment	15.09.14	22.11.14	CS Finance	REDACTED	REDACTED
CS 0051	REDACTED	Temporary Resource to Support Funding and Finance Committee until Recruitment	15.09.14	28.11.14	CS Finance	REDACTED	REDACTED
CS 0049	REDACTED	Shape, Lead and Influence a Range of Policy Areas Affecting the College Sector in Scotland	01.11.14	30.11.14	CS Finance	REDACTED	REDACTED
CS 0069	GLE Consultancy	Economic Modeling Specialists International (EMSI) Support	13.07.15	31.07.15	CS Finance	REDACTED	REDACTED
CS 0043	REDACTED	Colleges Insurance Business Case Project	09.04.14	19.09.14	CS Finance	REDACTED	REDACTED
CS 0067	REDACTED	Organisational Review of Colleges Scotland	01.06.15	31.07.15	CS Finance	REDACTED	REDACTED
CS 0047	REDACTED	Web Officer Cover	31.07.14	31.10.14	CS Finance	REDACTED	REDACTED
CS 0053	REDACTED	Web Officer Cover	01.11.14	16.01.15	CS Finance	REDACTED	REDACTED
CS 0060	REDACTED	Web Officer Cover	19.01.15	13.03.15	CS Finance	REDACTED	REDACTED
CS 0061	REDACTED	Web Officer Cover	19.01.15	13.03.15	CS Finance	REDACTED	REDACTED
CS 0064	REDACTED	Web Officer Cover	08.05.15	31.07.15	CS Finance	REDACTED	REDACTED
CS 0073	REDACTED	Web Officer Cover	03.08.15	11.09.15	CS Finance	REDACTED	REDACTED
ASC 0026	Pagoda Public Relations	Public Affairs & PR Support	01.07.12	31.06.13	CS Finance	REDACTED	REDACTED
CS 0030	Pagoda Public Relations	MSP Perceptions Survey	01.09.12	01.11.12	CS Finance	REDACTED	REDACTED
ASC 0035	Pagoda Public Relations	Public Affairs & PR Support	01.07.13	31.06.14	CS Finance	REDACTED	REDACTED
CS 0039	Pagoda Public Relations	Iposos MORI MSP Survey	01.10.13	31.10.13	CS Finance	REDACTED	REDACTED
CS 0045	Pagoda Public Relations	Public Affairs & PR Work	01.03.14	31.03.14	CS Finance	REDACTED	REDACTED
CS 0046	Pagoda Public Relations	Public Affairs & PR Work	01.07.14	31.12.14	CS Finance	REDACTED	REDACTED
CS 0055	Pagoda Public Relations	Public Affairs & PR Work	01.09.14	31.10.15	CS Finance	REDACTED	REDACTED
PO CS3175	Pagoda Public Relations	MSP Survey September 2014		Purchase Order	CS Finance	REDACTED	REDACTED
CS 0078	REDACTED	Employers Association Project Planning	22.03.16	31.07.16	Scottish Funding Council	REDACTED	REDACTED
ASC 0027	Snowdon Consulting	Strategic Policy Advice	01.08.12	28.02.13	CS Finance	REDACTED	REDACTED
CS 0032	Snowdon Consulting	Strategic Policy Advice	01.03.13	31.07.13	CS Finance	REDACTED	REDACTED
CS 0034	Snowdon Consulting	Strategic Policy Advice	01.08.13	30.09.13	CS Finance	REDACTED	REDACTED
CS 0040	Snowdon Consulting	Policy Support	01.11.13	15.11.13	CS Finance	REDACTED	REDACTED
CS 0033	Stark Events	Worldskills UK - The Skills Show	01.04.12	30.11.12	CS Finance	REDACTED	REDACTED
CS 0079	REDACTED	Employers Association HR Specialist Support	16.05.16	30.09.16	Scottish Funding Council	REDACTED	REDACTED
CS 0054	REDACTED	Shape, Lead and Influence a Range of Policy Areas	10.10.14	19.12.14	CS Finance	REDACTED	REDACTED
CS 0059	REDACTED	Policy Support	05.01.15	27.03.15	CS Finance	REDACTED	REDACTED
CS 0063	REDACTED	Policy Support	06.04.15	31.07.15	CS Finance	REDACTED	REDACTED

£ 491,943.15