



Freedom of Information Request

2nd October 2024

Question

Under the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002, I am requesting the following information:

1. The total number of full-time equivalent (FTE) press and/or communications and/or media officers employed over the last five financial years (broken down by year).
2. The total cost (including salaries, benefits, and other associated costs) of employing these press and/or communications and/or media officers over the last five financial years (broken down by year).

If possible, can I please have the information provided in a table like the following – with your organisation’s name in the first section (where I am using the Scottish Government as an example), following the information I have asked for:

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Organisati on	2020-21		2021-22		2022-23		2023-24		2024-25	
	Numb er	Cost	Numb er	Cost	Numb er	Cost	Numb er	Cost	Numb er	Cost
Scottish Governme nt	X	£XX X	X	£XX X	X	£XX X	X	£XX X	X	£XX X

Answer

All press and media matters are dealt with by our in-house communications team, with three individuals - two Band 6 ‘Communication Business Partners’ and one Band 8 ‘Communications Manager’ responsible for managing press and media. This includes engagement with broadcasters, national newspapers, local newspapers and social media.

The NHS Scotland Band 6 salary scale is currently £37,831-£46,100. The Band 8a salary scale is currently £56,922 – £61,522

The number of posts and bandings for these posts have remained unchanged over the last five years.

Providing an exact breakdown of the total costs for each post and each member of staff in post for each year since 2020 would involve creating new information. Public authorities are not required to create information in order to answer a request and it is for this reason we have applied section 17; the information is not held.