



Guide to Information

Equality

In accordance with the Equality Act 2010, we make any reasonable adjustment necessary to assist those with a protected characteristic or disability to engage fully with the Commission. Please let us know if you require any assistance with this document.

We are a member of Happy to Translate and can, upon request, provide language assistance with this document or make it available in alternative formats.



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info@sccrc.org.uk

The Freedom of Information (S) Act 2002 (FOISA) requires Scottish public authorities to produce and maintain a publication scheme. Authorities are under a legal obligation to:

- publish the classes of information that they make routinely available
- tell the public how to access the information and what it might cost.

The Scottish Criminal Cases Review Commission adopted the Scottish Information Commissioner's Model Publication Scheme (MPS). The Scottish Information Commissioner (SIC) approved the MPS on 1 November 2018.

The purpose of this guide to information is to enable you to see:

- the information we publish through the MPS
- how to access it
- whether there is a charge for it
- how to get help to access information

The MPS Principles

Principle 1: Availability and formats

The information we publish through the MPS is, wherever possible, available on our website. We offer alternative arrangements for people who cannot access the information online. We can, for example,

send information to you in paper copy (although there may be a charge for doing so) or you can attend our premises to look at information.

Principle 2: Exempt information

We shall publish the information we hold that falls within the nine classes of information set out in the table below. Where a document contains information that is exempt under FOISA – eg, sensitive personal information – we may remove or redact the information before publication, but we shall explain why we have done so.

One particular class of information that we do not disclose under the MPS (or in response to a freedom of information request) is information that we obtain in the exercise of our primary statutory function,¹ which is to say, ‘case-related’ information.

FOISA exempts the disclosure of information where such disclosure is information that is prohibited by or under any enactment (s26(a) of FOISA). Our disclosure of ‘case-related’ information would constitute a breach of s194J of CPSA. The s26(a) exemption is an absolute exemption in that it is not subject to the public interest test set out in FOISA. Accordingly, case-related information is exempt from disclosure. The SIC has upheld our approach in that regard.²

Principle 3: Copyright and re-use

Where we hold the copyright in our published information, the information may be copied or reproduced without formal permission, provided:

- it is copied or reproduced accurately
- it is not used in a misleading context, and
- the source of the material is identified

Where we do not hold the copyright in our published information, we shall make this clear.

Principle 4: Charges

There is no charge to view information on our website or at our premises.

Where possible we will aim to provide you with the information requested in electronic format via email. However, we may charge for providing you with information in hard-copy – for the costs of photocopying and postage – but we shall charge you no more than it actually costs us to do so. We shall always tell you what the cost is before we provide you with the information.

Our photocopying charge per sheet of paper is as follows:

¹ Our primary statutory function is as follows: we, on the consideration of any conviction of a person in Scotland or the sentence imposed in such a case, may refer the case to the High Court for determination where we believe there may have been a miscarriage of justice and it is in the interests of justice to do so: the Criminal Procedure (S) Act 1995 (CPSA), s194B and C.

² See, for example, decision 075/2010 of the SIC, *Lucy Adams of The Herald and the SCCRC and Decision 242/2024: Application concerning Abdelbaset Al-Megrahi*.

Size of paper	Pence per single sided copy (black and white)	Pence per single sided copy (colour)
A1	10p	20p
A2	10p	20p
A3	10p	20p
A4	5p	10p

We do not pass on any other costs to you in relation to our published information.

Principle 5: Contact details

You can contact us for help with any aspect of this publication scheme at:

Scottish Criminal Cases Review Commission, Portland House, 17 Renfield Street, Glasgow G2 5AH

Email: info@sccrc.org.uk

Tel: 0141 270 7030

Please contact us if you have any queries about the MPS, wish to access information not published through the MPS or are dissatisfied with any aspect of it, and we shall help you with your query, request or complaint.

Principle 6: Duration

We publish information that we hold within the nine classes set out in the table below. Once information is published under a class, we shall continue to make it available for the current and previous two financial years.

Where information has been superseded, we publish only the current version. Please contact us if you wish to see previous versions.

The classes of information we publish:

CLASS 1: ABOUT US

Class description:

Information about us, who we are, where to find us, how to contact us, how we are managed and our external relations

The information we publish under this class	How to access it
About the Commission	

Our role within the criminal justice system	Our Organisation - SCCRC
The law governing what it is we do	Our Organisation - SCCRC
Contact us	Contact Us - SCCRC
How we are run	
The Board	Our People - SCCRC
The management team	Our People - SCCRC
The role of the Board	Board Terms of Reference - SCCRC
How we operate	SCCRC Framework Document - SCCRC
Code of conduct for Board members	Code of Conduct for Members - SCCRC
Register of interests	Register of Interests - SCCRC
Board Members' attendance	Procedure for Board Member's Attendance at Commission Meetings - SCCRC
Managing Conflicts of Interest	Managing Conflicts of Interest - SCCRC
Recovery of Expenses	Recovery of Litigation Expenses - SCCRC
Corporate planning	
Corporate plan	Corporate Plan - 2025-28 - SCCRC
Equality	Equal Opportunities Policy - SCCRC 2024-25 Equality Duty Mainstreaming Report - SCCRC
Health & Safety	Health & Safety Policy - SCCRC
Sustainability	Environmental Policy - SCCRC Environmental Action Plan - SCCRC

External relations	
Internal and external audit arrangements	Annual Report 2024-25 - SCCRC Annual Accounts 2024-25 - SCCRC
Keeping others informed	
News	News & Updates - SCCRC
Procedure for Issue of Press Release	Procedure for Issue of Press Releases - SCCRC
Criminal law	Publications - SCCRC (position papers)
Research	Publications - SCCRC (research reports)

Communications	News & Updates - SCCRC
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CLASS 2: HOW WE DELIVER OUR FUNCTIONS AND SERVICES	
Class description:	Information about our work, our strategy and policies for delivering functions and services and information for our service users

The information we publish under this class	How to access it
Information on rights and how to make an application	
How to apply to us	guidance for applicants and representatives - how to apply to the commission
Information about us	information booklet
Information for witnesses	information for witnesses
Application form	Application Form - SCCRC
Frequently asked questions	Frequently Asked Questions - SCCRC
How to complain about us	Complaints - SCCRC

CLASS 3: HOW WE TAKE DECISIONS AND WHAT WE HAVE DECIDED

Class description:

Information about the decisions we take, how we take decisions and how we involve others

The information we publish under this class	How to access it
Annual reports	Annual Report 2024-25 - SCCRC Annual Accounts 2024-25 - SCCRC
Board meetings	Publications - SCCRC (Board Minutes)
Policy meetings	Publications - SCCRC (Policy Minutes)
Audit committee meetings	Publications - SCCRC (Audit Committee Minutes)
Referred cases (conviction)	Past Cases - SCCRC (Conviction)

Referred cases (sentence)	Past Cases - SCCRC (Sentence)
How we handle cases	Publications - SCCRC (Case Handling Procedures)
Persistent applications and persistent correspondence	Persistent & Repeated Applications Policy - SCCRC Persistent & Vexatious Correspondents Policy - SCCRC
Case statistics	Case Statistics Report - March 2025 - SCCRC
Criminal law	Publications - SCCRC (position papers)

CLASS 4: WHAT WE SPEND AND HOW WE SPEND IT

Class description:

Information about our strategy for, and management of, financial resources (in sufficient detail to explain how we plan to spend public money and what has actually been spent)

The information we publish under this class	How to access it
How we operate	SCCRC Framework Document - SCCRC
Annual audited accounts	Annual Report 2024-25 - SCCRC Annual Accounts 2024-25 - SCCRC
Fees	Fees Direction 2009 (No.2) - SCCRC
Duties to publish financial information	Public Services Reform Scotland Act 2010 - SCCRC

CLASS 5: HOW WE MANAGE OUR HUMAN, PHYSICAL AND INFORMATION RESOURCES

Class description:

Information about how we manage our human, physical and information resources

The information we publish under this class	How to access it
Human resources	
Staff conduct	Code of Conduct for Staff - SCCRC
Equal opportunities	Equal Opportunities Policy - SCCRC
Grievances	Grievance Policy - SCCRC
Staff assessment	Staff Appraisal & Performance Policy - SCCRC

Physical resources	
Sustainability	Environmental Policy - SCCRC Environmental Action Plan - SCCRC
Biodiversity Report 2021-23	Biodiversity Duty Report 2021-23 - SCCRC
Information resources	
How we handle information	Data Protection Policy - SCCRC
For how long we retain information	Data Retention Policy - SCCRC
When we disclose information	Disclosure Policy - SCCRC
Records management	Records Management Policy - SCCRC
Response Plan for Personal Data Breaches	Response Plan for Personal Breaches - SCCRC

CLASS 6: HOW WE PROCURE GOODS AND SERVICES FROM EXTERNAL PROVIDERS
Class description:
Information about how we procure goods and services, and our contracts with external providers

The information we publish under this class	How to access it
How we operate	SCCRC Framework Document - SCCRC
Procurement	Procurement Policy - SCCRC

CLASS 7: HOW WE ARE PERFORMING
Class description:
Information about how we perform as an organisation and how well we deliver our functions and services

The information we publish under this class	How to access it
Annual reports	Annual Report 2024-25 - SCCRC Annual Accounts 2024-25 - SCCRC

CLASS 8: OUR COMMERCIAL PUBLICATIONS

Class description:

Information packaged and made available for sale on a commercial basis and sold at market value through a retail outlet

The information we publish under this class	How to access it
We do not hold or publish information under this class	

CLASS 9: OUR OPEN DATA

Class description:

The open data we make available as described by the Scottish Government's Open Data Strategy and Resource Pack

The information we publish under this class	How to access it
Statistics about the cases we review	Publications - SCCRC (annual reports) Publications - SCCRC (research reports)

Date Approved	31 May 2019
Date of Last Review	21 March 2025
Date of Next Review	31 March 2028