

**Caitlin Lindenberg**

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**From:** FOI  
**Sent:** 20 May 2015 14:53  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** FOI 41/15 - Fraud reported for the Scottish Referendum

Dear [REDACTED]

**Our Ref: FOI 41/15**

Thank you for your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 dated 9<sup>th</sup> April 2015 and subsequently the clarification you provided on 24 April 2015.

The Commission aims to respond to requests for information promptly and has done so within the statutory timeframe of twenty working days, of the clarification.

Your request is in bold below followed by our response.

You have requested:

**Under Freedom of Information would it please be possible to have a breakdown of reported cases of fraud in the Scottish Independence Referendum?**

Our response is as follows:

We work with the UK's Associations of Chief Police Officers to collect data from police forces about cases of alleged electoral fraud, and have done so since 2008. We receive monthly returns from all 45 territorial police forces across England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. In Scotland the Electoral Commission receives information about alleged cases of electoral fraud from Police Scotland, if they are committed under the Representation of People Act 1983 (the Act). The cases of fraud allegations which we hold will, therefore, only be the ones that are in breach of the Act, and it is only the police who hold information on all cases of fraud at the Scottish Independence Referendum. You may therefore wish to redirect your Freedom of information request to [Police Scotland](#), as they will also hold information on reported cases of fraud at the Scottish Independence Referendum.

We define 'fraud', as any case which is in breach of the Representation of the People Act 1983, and the cases we are releasing are all the cases of alleged fraud relating to the Scottish Independence Referendum that we hold. The Electoral Commission holds details of 13 cases of fraud at the Scottish Independence Referendum, which will be set out in the table below:

Category	Area	Summary title	Outcome	Quality Assurance Comments
Voting	Glasgow	60-62 and 62A Personation/legal incapacity to vote/multiple voting (i) Polling station	Under investigation	Voting Personation at polling station. Confirmed Offence, Under Investigation
Voting	Glasgow	60-62 and 62A Personation/legal	Under investigation	Voting Personation at polling station. Confirmed Offence,

		incapacity to vote/multiple voting (i) Polling station		Under Investigation
Voting	Glasgow	60-62 and 62A Personation/legal incapacity to vote/multiple voting (i) Polling station	Under investigation	Voting Personation at polling station. Confirmed Offence, Under Investigation
Voting	Glasgow	60-62 and 62A Personation/legal incapacity to vote/multiple voting (i) Polling station	Under investigation	Voting Personation at polling station. Confirmed Offence, Under Investigation
Voting	Glasgow	60-62 and 62A Personation/legal incapacity to vote/multiple voting (i) Polling station	Under investigation	Voting allegation of Personation at polling station. Under Investigation to establish if offence has been committed
Voting	Glasgow	60-62 and 62A Personation/legal incapacity to vote/multiple voting (i) Polling station	Under investigation	Voting allegation of Personation at polling station. Under Investigation to establish if offence has been committed
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Voting	Glasgow	60-62 and 62A Personation/legal incapacity to vote/multiple voting (i) Polling station	Under investigation	Voting allegation of Personation at polling station. Under Investigation to establish if offence has been committed
Voting	West Lothian	60-62 and 62A Personation/legal incapacity to vote/multiple voting (i) Polling station	Under investigation	Voting Personation at polling station. Confirmed Offence, Under Investigation
Voting	Glasgow	113 Bribery	Prosecution	Voting, S113 Bribery, Selling of

			advice awaited	vote on ebay. Under investigation
Administration	West Lothian	Other	Under Investigation	Administration Other, Theft of Referendum documents post declaration of the result. Under investigation
Voting	Scotland	66 Requirement of secrecy	Under Investigation	Voting. Allegations of breaches of the secrecy of the ballot at postal vote openings. Under investigation.

I trust that this information satisfies your request. The Commission strives to be an open, transparent authority, but in some circumstances we cannot responsibly release requested information, and we ask for your understanding in this regard.

If you are not satisfied with this response, please note that the Commission operates a review procedure, details of which can be found on the Commission website at: <http://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/about-us/freedom-of-information-requests/how-do-i-make-an-foi-request>

Please also note that if you have exhausted all internal Commission review procedures and you are still not satisfied you have the right to appeal to the Information Commissioner. Details of this procedure can be found on the ICO website: <http://www.ico.gov.uk>

Yours sincerely

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