[redacted]

From: FOI
Sent: 30 June 2021 14:49
To: [redacted]
Subject: FOI 097-21 - Response

Dear [redacted],

Our Ref: FOI-097-21

Thank you for your email to the Electoral Commission dated 2 June 2021.

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

Your request is shown below followed by our response.

Please provide the statement of accounts for the Scottish National Party for each year between 1999 and 2008.

Our response is as follows:

We hold some of the information you have requested.

Some information that you have requested is exempt from disclosure under section 21 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Section 21 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 provides for an exemption where the information requested is reasonably accessible to the applicant by other means, for example it may be:

- On our website, or,
- The information may be available for inspection as required by law by any other body.

The SNP accounts for the years 2002-2008 are accessible to you here on our website.

We do not hold information on party accounts for the year 2001 or earlier.

Under section 42 of the Political Parties, Elections and Referendums Act 2000 (PPERA), registered political parties are required to submit an annual statement of accounts. This section of the Act was in force from 01 January 2002 meaning that there was no legal requirement under PPERA for parties to submit accounts for the year 2001 or earlier.

Depending on the level of a party's income and expenditure, the statement of accounts is due every year within 3 months or 6 months and 7 days of the party's year end. The SNP has a year end of 31 December therefore the deadline for submission of their 2002 accounts would have fallen in 2003. These accounts are available as noted above.

You can find more information about the rules regarding statement of accounts on our website:

https://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/i-am-a/political-party/guidance-submitting-your-statements-accounts

The Commission strives to be an open, transparent authority and I trust that this information satisfies your request.

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: https://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/freedom-information/make-a-freedom-information-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: https://ico.org.uk/.

Yours sincerely

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The Electoral Commission
electoralcommission.org.uk