

[REDACTED]

From: FOI
Sent: 18 August 2022 08:44
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: FOI 061-22 - Response

Dear [REDACTED],

Our Ref: FOI-061-22

Thank you for your email to the Electoral Commission dated 5 August 2022.

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.

I am writing to make a request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 regarding donations made to UKIP Northern Ireland (<http://search.electoralcommission.org.uk/English/Registrations/PP84>) from 2012 – 2016.

Specifically, I am requesting the following:

- 1. The number of donors and the total value of their donations to UKIP Northern Ireland for the time period beginning January 2012 - the end of December 2016. Please provide a breakdown for each of the four quarters within each calendar year, e.g. Q1 2012, Q2 2012, Q3 2012, Q4 2012, Q1 2013, Q2 2013 and so on.*
- 2. How many of these donors to UKIP Northern Ireland were Scottish Limited Partnerships, for the time period beginning January 2012 - the end of December 2016. Please provide a breakdown for each quarter within each calendar year, e.g. Q1 2012, Q2 2012, Q3 2012, Q4 2012, Q1 2013, Q2 2013 and so on.*
- 3. And how many of these donors to UKIP Northern Ireland were unincorporated associations, for the time period beginning January 2012 - the end of December 2016. Please provide a breakdown for each quarter within each calendar year, e.g. Q1 2012, Q2 2012, Q3 2012, Q4 2012, Q1 2013, Q2 2014 and so on.*

Please confirm via email that you have received this request.

If you do not hold this specific information I would be grateful if in line with Section 16 of the Act you could provide me advice and assistance as to what information is relevant to my request.

I understand that under the FOI Act I should be entitled to a response within 20 working days. If obtaining the information I require is likely to incur a fee, then please warn me about this before proceeding.

Our response is as follows:

We cannot confirm if we hold the information you have requested.

Exemption under Section 44 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000:

The Commission is prohibited by legislation from releasing information in relation to donations that may have been given to a registered Northern Ireland party before 1 July 2017. Section 71E of the Political Parties, Elections and Referendum Act 2000 (PPERA) places a duty on the Commission not to disclose any information that relates to donations received by a Northern Ireland recipient and has been obtained by the Commission in the exercise of its functions. We consider this information exempt under section 44(1)(a) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

This is an absolute exemption under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

The Commission strives to be an open, transparent authority, but in some circumstances we cannot 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:

<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

Information Officer

FOI@electoralcommission.org.uk

The Electoral Commission

[electoralcommission.org.uk](https://www.electoralcommission.org.uk)