

[REDACTED]

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**From:** FOI  
**Sent:** 05 September 2022 12:29  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** FOI 060-22 - Response

Dear [REDACTED],

**Our Ref: FOI-060-22**

Thank you for your email to the Electoral Commission.

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.

*My request was for detail as to who is paying for the SNP legal fees in connection with the attached. The SNP does not have the necessary funds, and I suspect the Scottish government is footing the bill.*

*The rationale behind this is that the last election was a mandate to hold a referendum. My requests specifically are:*

*Who is funding the SNP's legal permission to intervene?*

*What was the actual wording on the ballot papers for the 2021 Scottish Government Election.*

**Our response is as follows:**

*Who is funding the SNP's legal permission to intervene?*

We do not hold the information you have requested. You would need to ask the party directly for this information.

Political parties are required to report information to the Electoral Commission about any donations or loans that they have received with a value over £7,500. However, there is no requirement for them to report how they are using any specific donation so it is not possible to ascertain which donation has supported any specific spending by the party.

We publish details of all donations and loans reported to us on our website where you are able to search for donations to a specific party.

[View all donations reported by the SNP](#)

The Electoral Commission also publishes political parties' annual statement of accounts (SOA).

[View the SNP 2021 SOA](#)

*What was the actual wording on the ballot papers for the 2021 Scottish Government Election?*

This information is publicly available. The wording on the Scottish Parliament ballot papers, both for the regional vote and the constituency vote, are set out in legislation. This can be found in Rule

27 and Form I and Rule 28 and Form J Schedule 2 of the [Scottish Parliament \(Elections etc.\) Order 2015](#).

[View the ballot paper templates set out in the legislation \(Form I and Form J\)](#)

We are providing you with these links, rather than the wording itself, in line with the Freedom of Information Act Section 21 exemption which states that we do not need to repeat information where it is reasonably accessible by other means. In this case, via the web pages we have referred you to.

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](http://electoralcommission.org.uk)