

[REDACTED]

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**From:** FOI  
**Sent:** 17 April 2023 12:46  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** FOI 031-23 - Response

Dear [REDACTED]

**Our Ref: FOI-031-23**

Thank you for your email to the Electoral Commission dated 5 April 2023.

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.

- 1) *are you investigating the finances of the SNP ?*
- 2) *when did your investigations start ?*
- 3) *will you halt, or not start an investigation until the Police have concluded their investigation ?*

**Our response is as follows:**

We hold the information you have requested.

The Commission is not investigating the finances of the SNP. As you are aware, there is an ongoing police investigation related to the party's finances. The Commission's regulatory role covers only specific controls within the Political Parties Elections and Referendums Act 2000 (PPERA), but offences under PERA can also be investigated by the police.

Police Scotland have not shared with us details of, or the exact scope of the investigation, and we would not expect them to do so. On that basis we will await the outcome. Whether any additional action by the Commission is appropriate in relation to the rules we regulate, and the nature of any such action, will be entirely dependent on the outcome of the police investigation.

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

Information Officer

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**The Electoral Commission**

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