



# Scotland Office

An Oifis Albannach

1 Melville Crescent  
Edinburgh EH3 7HW

Telephone: 0131-244 [REDACTED]

Website: [www.scotlandoffice.gsi.gov.uk](http://www.scotlandoffice.gsi.gov.uk)

Our ref: FOI/DB 359

19 December 2011

Dear [REDACTED]

## FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST

Thank you for your email sent to the Scotland Office on 16 December 2011.

You asked for the following information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000:

*I would like a list of all payments made by the department to firms of private investigators (also known as inquiry agents) since 1 May 2010.*

*(For the avoidance of doubt that would include any firm listed as a member of the Association of British Investigators - a full membership list is available at [www.theabi.org.uk](http://www.theabi.org.uk))*

*I would like to know for each payment:*

- *The cost of the work commissioned*
- *The date*
- *Which office, sub-department or agency of your department commissioned the work*
- *In as much detail as possible, the nature and scope of the task commissioned, in particular, a description of who or what the target of the inquiry was, what information was sought, and for what reason*
- *What methods the investigators used (surveillance; video surveillance; public records (please specify); non-public records (please specify); other (please specify)).*
- *What the outcome of the inquiry was.*

I am writing to advise you that we have searched our records and taken all reasonable steps to locate the information asked for.

As far as we are able to determine, the Scotland Office has not made any payments to firms of private investigators since 1 May 2010.

I hope you find this helpful.

If you are dissatisfied with the decision made in relation to your request you may ask for an internal review. A request for an internal review should be addressed to:

FOI Officer  
1 Melville Crescent  
EDINBURGH  
EH3 7HW

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The contact details are:

Information Commissioner's Office  
Wycliffe House  
Water Lane  
Wilmslow  
CHESHIRE  
SK9 5AF

If you have any queries about this letter please contact me.

Yours sincerely



**Scotland Office**