

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| [REDACTED] | Area GG SouthOAGVictoria QuayEdinburgh EH6 6QQ5 February 2018 |

Dear [REDACTED]

**Freedom of Information Request**

Thank you for your email of 9 January 2018 requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).  You asked for:

1. The total amount spent by your Department on public relations in 2016-17. This should include but not be limited to:

a.       the amount spent by your department on its internal press and communications team;

b.       the amount spent by your department on third-party companies to provide any communications and public affairs services;

c.        the amount spent by your department on advertising, marketing, and publicity campaigns.

2.       The total amount spent by your department on your internal press and communications staff in 2016-17.

3.       The amount spent by your department on third-party public relations or communications companies in 2016-17 including the following specific details:

a.       The name of the companies that your Department has employed;

b.       The amount of money paid to each company;

c.       The period for which the company was employed;

d.       The purpose of your employment of each company.

Having completed our search for information I can tell you that there was no spend by the Office of the Advocate General in 2016-17 on any of the 3 categories listed above.

You may, if dissatisfied with the treatment of your request, ask the Office of the Advocate General to conduct an internal review of its decision.  The internal review will be conducted by someone other than the person who took the initial decision.  Requests for internal review should be addressed to the Information Officer, Office the Advocate General, Victoria Quay, Edinburgh, EH6 6QQ.

If following the internal review you remain dissatisfied with the treatment of your request by OAG then you may take your complaint to the Information Commissioner, whose address is Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF.  Details of the complaints procedure can be found here:

<https://ico.org.uk/concerns>

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED}