

Orkney Islands Council

Publication Scheme

Introduction

Individuals can ask to Orkney Islands Council to provide any information that we hold and, if it is both legal to do so and practical to do so, we will. In addition, the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 (the Act) requires all Scottish public authorities to produce and maintain a Guide to Information, also known as a publication scheme.

Guide to Information

The purpose of this guide to information is to:

- Allow the public to see what information is available and what is not available in relation to each class.
- State what charges may be applied (for most information, there is no charge).
- Explain how to find the information easily.
- Provide contact details for enquiries and to get help with access to the information.
- Explain how to request information that has not been published.

The Guidance is split into the following six sections:

- Availability and formats.
- Exempt information.
- Copyright.
- Charges.
- Contact details.
- The classes of information that we publish.

Availability and formats

Wherever possible, the information will be available on our website. We offer alternative arrangements for people who do not wish to, or who cannot, access the information either online or by inspection at our premises. For example, we can usually arrange to send out information in paper copy (although there may be a charge for this).

Exempt information

We will publish the information we hold that falls within the classes of information below. If a document contains information that is exempt under Scotland's freedom of information laws (for example sensitive personal data or a trade secret), we will remove or black out the information before publication and explain why.

Copyright

Where Orkney Islands Council holds the copyright in its published information, the information may be copied or reproduced without formal permission, provided that:

- It is copied or reproduced accurately.
- It is not used in a misleading context.
- The source of the material is identified.

Where Orkney Islands Council does not hold the copyright in information we publish, we will make this clear.

Charges

For photocopying, we will charge a standard rate of 10p per A4 side of paper (black and white copy) and 30p per A4 side of paper (colour copy).

Information provided on CD-Rom will be charged at £1.00 per computer disc.

Postage costs will be recharged at the rate we pay to send the information to you.

If providing copies of any pre-printed publications, we will charge no more than the cost per copy of the total print run.

We do not pass any other costs on to you in relation to our published information.

Information Not Published Under the Publication Scheme

There will be no charge for information requests which cost us £100 or less to produce.

Where information costs between £100 and £600 to provide to you, you may be asked to pay 10% of the cost. That is, if you were to ask for information that cost us £600 to provide, you would be asked to pay £50. That is calculated on the basis of a waiver for the first £100 and 10% of the remaining £500.

We are not obliged to respond to requests for non-environmental information which will cost us over £600 to process.

Where environmental information costs over £600 to provide to you, we may ask you to pay the additional cost over that amount in full. For example, if you were to ask us for information that costs us £800 to provide, you may be asked to pay £250. This fee would be calculated on the basis of a waiver for the first £100 costs of providing the information, 10% of the next £500 costs, and full cost recovery for cost over £600 (in this example, £200).

In calculating any fee, staff time will be calculated at actual cost per staff member hourly salary rate to a maximum of £15 per person per hour.

We do not charge for the time to determine whether we hold the information requested, nor for the time it takes to decide whether the information can be

released. Charges may be made for locating, retrieving and providing information to you.

In the event that we decide to impose a charge we will issue you with notification of the charge (a fees notice) and how it has been calculated. You will have three months from the date of issue of the fees notice in which to decide whether to pay the charge. The information will be provided to you on payment of the charge. If you decide not to proceed with the request there will be no charge to you.

Contact details and how to request information not included in this guide

You can contact us for assistance with any aspect of this information guide and if you want to ask us for information that is not included in the guide:

Freedom of Information, Orkney Islands Council, Council Offices, School Place, Kirkwall, Orkney, KW15 1NY.

Telephone: 01856873535.

Email: foi@orkney.gov.uk .

We will also advise you how to ask for information that we do not publish or how to complain if you are dissatisfied with any aspect of the publication scheme. If you wish to make a request for information not contained in the publication scheme please contact us at foi@orkney.gov.uk. There is detailed guidance on our website [here](#).

Updated 15 January 2018.