

**Request Reference:** FOI/007/22  
**Published:** 15 June 2022

**Information requested:**

What information is held on the political affiliation of board members and senior staff within your organisation

The current annual cost of press and media for your organisation, and the total number of personnel employed to handle press and media for your organisation

What guidelines have been issued to your organisation by the Scottish Government on press releases and media

**Response:**

The State Hospital publishes within its [State Hospital Annual Report and Accounts](#). Board Members Register of Interests that lists the declared interests of the Board and senior managers.

Currently we provide information for the years 2019/20 and 2020/21 and because this information is otherwise accessible, it is exempt from disclosure through under FOISA section 25(1).

The register for 2021/22 is due to go before the Board in June and is due to be published within 12 weeks of this request. This information is therefore exempt from disclosure under FOISA section 27(1).

Our current annual cost of press and media is £76,564.34 and we employ one person to handle press and media.

In relation to guidance issued by The Scottish Government; we have searched our Communications department's records, but have found no guidance. We therefore give notice under FOISA section 17 that we do not hold the information requested. Please see the Advice and Guidance section.

**Advice and Guidance**

When guidance is provided by The Scottish Government it is usually via an Internet link and therefore it is The Scottish Government that holds the guidance and The State Hospital views it via an Internet browser.

For example; guidance regarding the [Scottish Local Government Elections in May 2022](#) is available online but The State Hospital does not hold a copy of it.

Guidance issued by The Scottish Government to The State Hospital may be available from The Scottish Government. Further details about making FOI requests to The Scottish Government is available from the [Scottish Government website](#).