

# progressive

## SCOTTISH OPINION

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### **Scottish Information Commissioner Public Awareness Research November 2006**

#### **Background**

The Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act (FOISA) 2002, introduced a new right of access to information held by Scottish public authorities. Subject to certain exemptions, anyone that requests any information from a public authority is entitled to receive it. Everyone is entitled to this regardless of their age, gender or country of residence.

The Scottish Information Commissioner is the independent public official, responsible for promoting and enforcing the right to access public information in Scotland.

Since 2004 public awareness studies have been conducted to test levels of awareness and knowledge of FOISA 2002 and the Scottish Information Commissioner (SIC). A total of three waves of research have been completed across Scotland: October 2004, May 2005 and December 2005 by Progressive Scottish Opinion.

The Commissioner continues to measure and monitor public awareness on an annual basis and commissioned Progressive Scottish Opinion to conduct fieldwork and fully analyse and report on the results, comparing them with previous waves.

#### **Research Objectives**

The main overall objectives for the research remain largely unchanged from those identified in the previous surveys which were to inform the Commissioner's promotional work and to provide evidence of progress of the Freedom of Information regime in Scotland.

The specific research objectives are:

- To measure awareness of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act which came into force in January 2005
- To measure public awareness of the role of the Scottish Information Commissioner
- To understand public awareness of the right to request information held by Scottish Public Authorities
- To determine if members of the public have previously requested information from Scottish Public Authorities
- To understand how likely members of the public are to make requests in the future

## Methodology

As a representative sample of Scotland was required for this project, Progressive Scottish Opinion used an Omnibus methodology, consistent with the previous three waves, Wave 1 (S1), Wave 2 (S2) and Wave 3 (S3). All interviewing was completed in Progressive's in-house telephone unit. The Omnibus (known as Scottish Opinion) is a daily Omnibus service which generally runs 6-7 days a week and represents the social demographic spread of the total Scottish population as it takes sample from the electoral role.

The questionnaire used in this wave, was slightly different to that used in Wave 3(S3), however this is discussed throughout the interpretation of the findings, where appropriate.

1001 respondents were interviewed, by telephone, between 17<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> October 2006. This data was then weighted, to ensure a fully representative sample was achieved. All differences that are included in this report are statistically significant, at least at  $p < 0.05$ , unless otherwise stated, meaning that they should not have occurred by chance. This provided a data set with a maximum standard error of +/- 3.09 at the 95% confidence level.

## Sample

The sample surveyed was fully representative of the social demographic spread of the Scottish population with results weighted to accurately represent Scottish demographics, regarding age, sex and socio-economic group. Results are also regionally representative as Scottish Opinion interviews in all 72 Scottish constituencies.

<b>Age</b>		<b>Gender</b>	
18-24	11%	Male	48%
25-34	19%	Female	52%
35-44	20%		
45-54	17%	<b>Location</b>	
55-64	14%	Central	6%
65+	20%	Dumfries	3%
		Fife	7%
<b>Socio-Economic Grouping</b>		Grampian	8%
AB	19%	Highlands & Islands	8%
C1	27%	Lothian & Borders	17%
C2	22%	Strathclyde	44%
DE	32%	Tayside	7%
<b>Ethnicity</b>			
White UK	97%		
White- Other	2%		
Indian	-		
Pakistani	-		
Bangladeshi	-		
Other	-		
Refused	1%		

## Summary of the key findings of the research

- There has been a significant increase in respondents' awareness of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 (FOISA) since the first survey was conducted. The increase in awareness rose significantly after the extensive period of television advertising before the third wave. Awareness levels have been sustained in 2006 even in the absence of an advertising campaign this year.
- There has been an increase in the amount of respondents who have made requests to public authorities since FOISA.
- Respondents who are aware of FOISA are more likely to;
  - understand they have rights to access information;
  - have made requests for information held by public authorities;
  - be aware of the SIC and,
  - feel they will ask for information from a public authority in the next year.
- A high number of respondents' requesting information from public authorities received some or all of the information they requested (76%).
- Respondents felt that FOISA has brought more public authority information into the public domain.
- There is a continued decrease in cynicism that authorities will find a way to get round the Act. It has not, however, led to increased public confidence in authorities' openness.
- There has been a decline in awareness of the Scottish Information Commissioner.
- Respondents are still confused about the rights afforded by FOISA. This is also amongst respondents that are aware of the Act and the SIC.
- Newspapers continue to be the main way that people find out about the SIC and this year we have seen an increase in the respondents reporting that they have heard about the SIC from television programmes.
- People who recall seeing an advertisement about FOISA are more likely to be aware of FOISA and the SIC.
- There are gender, and social class differences in levels of awareness which may suggest targeted approaches to awareness raising.

## Summary of results

### Q1) Have you ever made a written request for information that a public authority holds?

Total responses: weighted base= 1008

<i>Answer</i>	<i>2005</i>	<i>April 2006</i>	<i>October 2006</i>
	<i>S2</i>	<i>S3</i>	<i>S4</i>
Yes	4%	8%	6%
No	96%	91%	93%

The proportion of respondents who have made a written request for information that a public authority holds has decreased since the last survey, however this result is not statistically significant. This slight decrease is in contrast to the significant increase of people who had made a written request for information that a public authority holds between waves 2 and 3. There is still a relatively small proportion of the sample as a whole that have made any written request.

It is possible that this small decrease in the proportion of people who have made a written request may be due to the fact that there is a slight decrease in awareness, as there has been no advertising campaign between S3 and S4, in contrast to the advertising campaign that had taken place between S2 and S3.

There were several differences between gender, social class, age and region from the proportion of people in these groups that had made a written request this year, compared to those that had last year, however most of these differences were not statistically significant. However, the proportion of respondents in the C2 social grade that had requested a written response had significantly decreased, from 20% in S3 to 4% in S4. The number of people aged 45-54 who had made a written request for information had also decreased, from 13% in S3 to 4% on S4. It is important to stress that when interpreting these subgroups, we are using a small base size (n= 63) so all interpretation should be treated with caution.

### Q2a) Has any request been made since the start of 2005?

Total responses: weighted base= 63

<i>Answer</i>	<i>S3 (n=83)</i>	<i>S4 (n=63)</i>
Yes	37%	57%
No	63%	43%

Of all the respondents who requested information in the past, the majority (57%) had made this request since the Act came into force in 2005. This is a significant increase from last year, as the majority last year (63%) had previously requested information at an unspecified point further in the past. However, again, this question is only asked of the 63 respondents who had made a written request for information, so it is important to interpret any of the results from this question with caution.

Similarly to last year, respondents were more likely to have made a request since 2005, if they were aware of FOISA (33% vs. 3%).

**Q2b) Which of the following types of authority have you requested information from?**

Total responses: weighted base= 63

Again, this question was only asked of the people that had made a written request for information. However, this year, the question was altered from a spontaneous question to a prompted multi code question, meaning the results from previous years are not necessarily comparable. Over half of the respondents who had made a written request before had made a request to the council (51%), followed by a health authority (26%). There was a significant difference between the number of respondents who had requested information from the council that were aware of FOISA (57%), compared to the other types of authority and the people that had made a written request to that authority and their awareness of FOISA.

**Q2c) Could you tell me roughly what type of information you asked for?**

Total responses: weighted base= 63

	<b>S3</b>	<b>S4</b>
Medical Records	47%	24%
Information about myself	59%	11%
Public authority finances	25%	2%
Planning information	19%	26%
Local authority grants and benefits	14%	17%
Environmental information	6%	2%
Other (specify)	5%	34%
Can't remember	2%	5%

Similarly to the previous questions, this was also asked of people who had made a written request for information. Respondents were able to provide multiple answers to this question.

In the previous wave, the most frequently identified type of information request was for information about themselves or medical records. However, in this wave of the survey increased numbers of respondents requested other types of information. There was a decrease in the amount of respondents asking for information about themselves and medical records from the previous wave. In this survey, most respondents had either asked for Planning information (26%), medical records (24%), or another piece of information (34%). These “other” pieces of information consisted of a wide range of responses, including council and health authority information and crime figures. There were a few respondents who would have asked for information regarding land ownership.

On further exploration, it is apparent that respondents asking for this information are more likely to be aware of FOISA. This suggests that awareness and understanding of the Act is a key driver in encouraging a wider spectrum of information requests.

**Q2d) Did you get the information you asked for?**

Total responses: weighted base= 63

This question is an addition to the questions asked in previous years of the survey. It was primarily

introduced to provide a measure of users' experience of public authority responsiveness.

	<b>S4</b>
Yes, all the information I asked for	66%
Yes, some of the information I asked for	10%
No	24%
Unsure/can't remember	-

The majority of the respondents who requested written information received the information they asked for (66%). Just under a quarter did not receive the information requested and a further 10% only received some of this information. It would be interesting to explore this further.

**Q3) In your opinion what legal rights do you have to see information held by public authorities?**

Total responses: weighted base= 1008

	<b>S1</b>	<b>S2</b>	<b>S3</b>	<b>S4</b>
I have the legal right to see any information I ask for, subject to certain exemptions	37%	39%	53%	44%
I have the legal right to see personal information they hold about me but it is up to the authority to decide what other information they give out	53%	39%	34%	39%
I don't have any legal rights, its up to the organisation to decide what information they give out	8%	6%	4%	4%
Other	-	-	-	-
Unsure	7%	16%	9%	13%

This question looked at respondents' understanding of their general legal rights to see information. The first statement reflects the rights afforded by FOISA and is therefore correct. The second statement correctly reflects rights afforded by the DPA but incorrectly asserts that the authority may decide what other information to give out (this was the position before FOISA came into force). The final statement is incorrect.

The table above shows the number of respondents by the legal rights they believe they have to see information held by authorities. The first statement, during S1 was not correct, as this was before the FOISA was implemented. The subsequent trend of respondents recognising their legal rights to see any information they asked for had steadily increased by 16%, between S1 and S3. However this year, 44% of respondents believed they had the legal right to ask for information, a decrease from the proportion of respondents from last year's survey (53%). This reduction in the number of respondents who feel they have the legal right to see any information is in line with the earlier reduction in respondents requesting written information that a public authority holds and reflects the general decrease in awareness of FOISA amongst the respondents. The majority of the respondents who felt they did have the legal right to see any information they asked for, subject to certain exemptions, were also the respondents who were most likely to be aware of FOISA (49%) or aware of the SIC (56%). However, the proportion of these respondents had significantly decreased from the previous wave. Respondents who were male were more likely to believe they had the legal right to see any information (with certain exemptions) compared to women (47% vs.

40%), and respondents of the social grading AB were more likely to know their rights regarding freedom of information than C2DE respondents. Respondents aged 35-44 years were also more likely to know they have the legal right to see any information, with certain exemptions, compared to 18-34 year olds. These results differ to the previous survey, in regards to sub group analysis, as there was only a significant difference between the C2 and DE social groupings in this section.

There was also an increase in the number of respondents who correctly believed they have the legal rights to see personal information held about them, but were incorrect in thinking that the organisation could decide what other information to give (39%). There was an increase in the number of respondents who were in the aforementioned category and who were aware of FOISA and aware of the SIC. Respondents aged 25-34 years were more likely to have this level of awareness, in comparison to people aged 35-65+.

The number of respondents, who believed they did not have the legal right to access information, remained consistent with last years survey at 4%, but this had decreased in previous waves. Those aged 65+ were more likely to believe they don't have these rights in comparison with those aged 25-44 years.

#### **Q4) Have you ever heard of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act?**

Total responses: weighted base= 1008

	<b>S1</b>	<b>S2</b>	<b>S3</b>	<b>S4</b>
Yes, definitely	30%	49%	57%	56%
Yes, I think so	14%	20%	15%	17%
<b>Yes</b>	<b>44%</b>	<b>69%</b>	<b>72%</b>	<b>73%</b>
No, I don't think so	9%	5%	9%	4%
No, definitely not	47%	26%	19%	21%
<b>No</b>	<b>56%</b>	<b>31%</b>	<b>28%</b>	<b>25%</b>
Unsure	0	1%	1%	1%

There had been a steady increase in the amount of respondents who have heard of FOISA in previous waves. However, in the current survey, this has levelled off, remaining static at 56%. Men (61%) were more likely to have heard of the act than women (53%), in contrast to last year where there was no significant difference. Respondents aged 35-44 years were significantly more likely to have heard of the Act than other age groups ( $p < 0.01$ ). Respondents that were aware of the SIC were also more likely to be definitely aware of FOISA.

There has been a steady decrease in the proportion that had not heard of the Act in previous waves which has also levelled in the current survey. Women were more likely to have definitely not heard of the Act than men and C2DE respondents were more likely to have definitely not heard of the act than respondents from higher social groups. Respondents in the older and younger age groupings were least likely to have heard of the Act compared with other age groups.

## Q5) What rights do you think the Freedom of Information Act might give you?

Total responses: weighted base= 1008

Responses to this question were spontaneous and unprompted, with respondents able to provide more than one answer. Responses were then categorised within the following options.

	<b>S1</b>	<b>S2</b>	<b>S3</b>	<b>S4</b>
To see any general information held by a public authority	32%	29%	52%	45%
To see any personal information a public authority holds about me	42%	40%	46%	45%
To see any personal information a private company holds about me	24%	12%	20%	16%
To see any general information held by a private company (Not true)	7%	3%	7%	10%
To see information normally kept confidential by public authorities	8%	6%	9%	11%
Other	2%	1%	1%	2%
Unsure	41%	40%	25%	26%

FOISA provides an entitlement to see any general information held by a Scottish public authority (statement 1). The second and third statements describe rights afforded not by FOISA, but by the DPA. There is no legal entitlement to access information held by private companies. The fifth statement ignores the entitlement under FOISA and the DPA authorities to withhold certain information. A positive response to the first statement only shows an understanding of the rights afforded by FOISA.

In S2 and S3, awareness of the rights to access any information held by public authorities (statement 1), had increased. However, in the current survey, this has decreased from the previous wave. Similar to last year, respondents were more likely to identify this right if they were aware of FOISA or SIC.

Consistent with last year, there is a relatively high number of respondents confused by the respective rights afforded by FOISA to general information and the subject access rights provided under the Data Protection Act (1998).

Public authorities are obliged to explain the legal entitlement to information in response to



requests. Where, for example, the requester is seeking personal information about themselves, the authority should explain that the rights to this information are afforded by DPA not FOISA.

**Q6a) How likely are you to ask for information from a Scottish public authority in the next year?**

Total responses: weighted base = 1008

	<b>S1</b>	<b>S2</b>	<b>S3</b>	<b>S4</b>
Very likely	3%	3%	5%	3%
Quite likely	9%	6%	12%	6%
Likely	12%	9%	17%	9%
Unlikely	78%	81%	73%	83%
Quite unlikely	22%	41%	38%	36%
Definitely unlikely	56%	40%	35%	47%
Unsure	7%	6%	6%	5%

There has been a decrease in the number of respondents that are likely to ask for information from a Scottish public authority in the next year and an increase in the amount of people that are unlikely to ask for information for a Scottish public authority in the next year, compared to the results from last year.

Respondents who are aware of FOISA are significantly more likely than those that are not, to ask for information from a public authority in the next year, however, although this is not significant for respondents that are aware of the SIC. 11% of those that were likely to ask for information were also aware of FOISA.

Respondents, from different age groups, SEG and gender, were almost equally likely to feel they would ask for information from a public authority. Although, respondents aged 65+ were less likely, than other age groups, to request information from a public authority in the next year.

**Q6b) What sort of information do you think you might ask for?**

Total responses: weighted base= 90

Only respondents who answered that they were very or quite likely to request information within the next 12 months were asked this question, so it is important to remember that this is a small sample size. Responses to this question were spontaneous and unprompted, with respondents able to provide more than one answer.

	<b>S2</b>	<b>S3</b>	<b>S4</b>
Medical records	18%	42%	25%
Information about myself	8%	24%	18%
Public authority finances	6%	19%	9%
Planning information	20%	17%	30%
Local authority grants and benefits	2%	8%	13%
Environmental information	8%	7%	9%
Other	17%	12%	18%
Don't know/ Can't remember	32%	5%	20%

Similarly to the earlier question that respondents were asked about the type of information they had requested, most respondents would ask for information about their medical records or planning information. However, there was still a decrease in the proportion of respondents who would ask for medical records, Information about themselves and public authority finances. There was an increase in the amount of respondents stating they would ask for “other” information. This included information such as police reports or school information.

**Q6c) Have you heard any advertising recently about FOISA?**

Total responses: weighted base= 1008

	<b>S2</b>	<b>S3</b>	<b>S4</b>
Yes definitely	23%	26%	16%
Yes, I think so	13%	15%	14%
<b>Yes</b>	<b>46%</b>	<b>41%</b>	<b>30%</b>
No, don't think so	16%	17%	13%
No definitely not	46%	40%	51%
<b>No</b>	<b>62%</b>	<b>57%</b>	<b>64%</b>
Unsure	2%	2%	6%

There has been a decrease in proportion of respondents that had heard any advertising recently about FOISA. This is not surprising, considering this question was asked to respondent in S3 only one week after the Commissioner's second TV campaign had finished. There has not been further TV advertising in 2006.

Men were significantly more likely than women to recall seeing any previous advertising, and young people, were the significantly the least likely to remember any advertising. Respondents that remembered the advertisement were significantly more likely to be aware of FOISA and of the SIC.

**Q7a) Have you ever heard of the Scottish Information Commissioner?**

Total responses: weighted base= 1008

	<b>S2</b>	<b>S3</b>	<b>S4</b>
Yes definitely	4%	10%	8%
Yes, I think so	5%	10%	6%
<b>Yes</b>	<b>9%</b>	<b>20%</b>	<b>14%</b>
No, don't think so	14%	20%	11%
No, definitely not	76%	58%	71%
<b>No</b>	<b>90%</b>	<b>78%</b>	<b>82%</b>
Unsure	1%	2%	4%

Similar to previous years, there is a relatively low level of awareness surrounding the SIC, although in previous years this has steadily increased. However, there has been a decrease in the proportion of respondents that have heard about the SIC in the current survey compared with the previous wave, and an increase in the proportion of respondents who had not heard about the SIC. Respondents who had definitely heard of the SIC were significantly more likely to be aware of FOISA...

Respondents in the AB social grouping were significantly more likely, than the C2DE groupings to have definitely heard of the SIC. Respondents aged 45-54 years were significantly less likely to have definitely not heard of the SIC than those aged 25-34 years.

**Q7b) Where do you recall seeing/ hearing about the Scottish Information Commissioner?**

Total responses: weighted base= 142

	<b>S2</b>	<b>S3</b>	<b>S4</b>
Newspaper editorial	28%	28%	23%
Newspaper advertising	6%	31%	15%
Radio	3%	9%	8%
TV programme	11%	6%	19%
TV advert	10%	14%	12%
Word of mouth	19%	5%	1%
Leaflet	5%	3%	1%
Billboards	0	1%	2%
Internet	1%	1%	5%
Through work	N/a	12%	15%
CAB	N/a	1%	2%
School/ College/ University	N/a	0%	6%
Other	12%	1%	4%
Unsure	1%	10%	15%

Respondents were able to provide multiple responses to this spontaneous question. Similar to previous waves, respondents were most likely to identify print literature, mainly newspapers (38%) to the source of their awareness of the Commissioner. There has been a decrease in the proportion of respondents that identified most of the media forms, although there has been a significant increase in the proportion of respondents who identified TV programmes as the source. There is still a relatively high number of respondents who were unsure about where they heard of the SIC from (15%).

**Q8) Which of the following duties do you think the SIC carries out?**

Total responses: weighted base= 1008

There are a wide range of duties carried out by the SIC, the responses marked with a star in the table below are some of the duties that the Commissioner does carry out.

	<b>S3</b>	<b>S4</b>	<b>S3</b>	<b>S4</b>	<b>S3</b>	<b>S4</b>
	<b>Yes- carries out</b>		<b>No- does not carry out</b>		<b>Unsure</b>	
Telling people about their right to see information held by Scottish public authorities*	64%	54%	15%	7%	21%	39%
Investigating	65%	55%	12%	7%	23%	37%

	<b>S3</b>	<b>S4</b>	<b>S3</b>	<b>S4</b>	<b>S3</b>	<b>S4</b>
complaints when people don't get the information they request from public authorities*						
Dealing with complaints about DP legislation	54%	46%	20%	12%	27%	42%
Making sure that public authorities comply with FOISA*	68%	58%	10%	5%	22%	37%
Providing information about public services	45%	42%	29%	19%	26%	39%

Statements one, two and four in this question reflect the role of the Scottish Information Commissioner. Dealing with complaints about the DPA is the jurisdiction of the (UK) Information Commissioner. The Scottish Information Commissioner does not have responsibility to provide information about public services.

There has been a significant decrease in the proportion of respondents that believe that the SIC is responsible for each of the duties listed. Respondents in the 18-24 years age group are less likely than most other age groups to think these options are a responsibility of SIC, as are respondents in the DE social grading. Respondents that are aware of FOISA and the SIC are more likely to know that telling people about their rights to information is a responsibility of the SIC. Similarly, respondents who were aware of the SIC were most likely to believe that the options surrounding dealing with complaints and providing information about public services is a responsibility of SIC.

However, there were also significant decreases, from last year's survey, in the proportion of respondents who answered 'no' to these questions. An increased proportion of respondents stated that they are unsure of the responsibilities of the SIC. This is consistent with the lack of in-depth understanding outlined in previous responses regarding rights regarding information access.

**Q9) How much you agree or disagree with each statement. Even if you aren't aware of this act?**

**As a result of FOISA....**

Total responses: weighted base= 1008

The number of responses, in brackets, represents the proportion of respondents from S3.

	<b>Agree Strongly</b>	<b>Agree Slightly</b>	<b>Agree</b>	<b>Neither/Nor</b>	<b>Disagree</b>	<b>Disagree slightly</b>	<b>Disagree Strongly</b>	<b>Don't know</b>
Public authorities are becoming more open and accountable	32% (34%)	28% (33%)	60% (67%)	8% (6%)	20% (20%)	11% (13%)	9% (7%)	12% (7%)
More public authority information is available now than before	39%	29%	68%	7%	12%	7%	5%	14%
Members of the public	21%	25%	46%	8%	34%	17%	17% (13%)	12%

	<b>Agree Strongly</b>	<b>Agree Slightly</b>	<b>Agree</b>	<b>Neither/Nor</b>	<b>Disagree</b>	<b>Disagree slightly</b>	<b>Disagree Strongly</b>	<b>Don't know</b>
can have more confidence in the decisions made by public authorities	(22%)	(31%)	(53%)	(5%)		(21%)		(7%)
Public authorities will find a way round the Act and won't provide any information they don't want to	26% (41%)	31% (25%)	57% (66%)	6% (4%)	27%	15% (18%)	12% (5%)	11% (7%)
No one bothers to use the rights provided by the act	14% (19%)	25% (28%)	39% (47%)	6% (6%)	43%	25% (23%)	18% (13%)	13% (11%)
The act is useful to me	26% (36%)	34% (30%)	60% (66%)	7% (6%)	22% (18%)	12% (11%)	10% (7%)	12% (10%)

The proportion of respondents agreeing that “as a result of the Act authorities are becoming more open and accountable” and “members of the public can have more confidence in decision-making in public authorities” has significantly decreased since the previous wave. However, although this has decreased, a reasonably high proportion of respondents do believe that authorities are more open and accountable and have more confidence in their decision making. It would be interesting to conduct further research to investigate this further.

There was a decrease in the number of respondents who felt that “public authorities will find a way round the Act” and that “no one bothers to use the rights provided by the act”. Therefore less than half of respondents feel that the Act will not be enforced or that no one would use it.

Similar to the previous wave, the majority of people believe that the act is useful to them (66%) and that more information is available now than before the act came into existence.

### Q10) Would you say you have a disability?

Overall, 12% (n=123) stated yes. Awareness of FOISA was lower, amongst disabled respondents, than for the rest of the population, however this is based on a small sample size and was not statistically significant. Awareness of the SIC, remained consistent with the entire sample.

	<b>Aware of the Act?</b>	<b>Unaware of the Act?</b>	<b>Aware of the SIC?</b>	<b>Unaware of SIC?</b>
Disabled	12% (12%)	14% (16%)	13% (12%)	12% (14%)

## Appendix Responses to open-ended questions

### Q2c – Which of the following types of authority have you requested information from?

<b>Response</b>	<b>No</b>
EDUCATION AUTHORITY	1
LAND REGISTER	1
LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES	1

OVER THE TELEPHONE SYSTEM	1
SPORT SCOTLAND	1
TO MY MSP	1

**Q2d - Could you please tell me roughly what type of information you asked for?**

<b>Response</b>	<b>No</b>
LAND REGISTER / LAND AND OWNERSHIP / WHO OWNED A SPECIFIC PIECE OF LAND	3
AS TO WHETHER OR NOT THE COUNCIL IS LEGALLY OBLIGATED TO PROVIDE ME WITH DISABLED PAVEMENT ACCESS	1
CRIME FIGURES	1
HEALTH BOARD HEALTH AUTHORITY	1
HISTORY	1
RECYCLING	1
REGARDING TO THE PROPERTY AND TAX	1
SCHOOLS IN LOCAL AUTHORITY AREAS	1
TELE SYSTEM	1
UNIVERSITY STUDENT LOAN	1

**Q5a – The Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act came into force on 1<sup>st</sup> January 2005. I appreciate that you may not be fully aware of this Act but I would like you to tell me what rights you think the Freedom of Information Act might give you?**

<b>Response</b>	<b>No</b>
MEDICAL INFORMATION / MEDICAL RECORDS	8
BANK AND CRIMINAL RECORD ACCESS	2
NOT A LOT / NOTHING	2
BIRTHS DEATHS CENSUS INFORMATION	1
CREDIT DETAILS	1
INFORMATION FROM YOU'RE DOCTOR AND COUNCIL	1
OLD PLANS OF BUILDINGS	1
PAST CRIMINAL RECORD	1
PLANNING PERMISSIONS	1
RIGHT TO MAKE UR OWN STATEMENT	1
SAY WHAT YOU THINK FREEDOM OF CHOICE	1
THEY HAVE THE RIGHT TO BE REFUSED	1
TO CHECK CERTAIN RECORDS	1
TO FIND OUT IF UR BLACKLISTED	1
WHAT'S GOING ON IN THE COMMUNITY	1

**Q6b – What sort of information do you think you might ask for?**

<b>Response</b>	<b>No</b>
POLICE SERVICE TO GET A REPORT / POLICE STATEMENTS	2
SCHOOL INFO / STATISTICS EDUCATION	2
AS TO THE DISABLED ACCESS ON THE PAVEMENTS AND IF THE COUNCIL IS OBLIGATED TO PROVIDE IT	1
CLARIFICATION OF RULES AND REGULATIONS AND LAWS	1
CLOSURE OF HOSPITALS NEW ROADS CLOSURE OF LOCAL SERVICES PUBLIC TRANSPORTS	1
FOR WORK PURPOSES	1
INFO ABOUT INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS	1
INFO ON FOOD INDUSTRY	1
INTERCOM CORRESPONDENT	1
POLITICAL INFORMATION LOCAL SCALE	1
PUBLIC THOROUGHFARES AND THEIR BEING FIXED	1
REFERENCE	1
SCOTTISH WATER AND TRANSPORT	1
SOCIAL CARE AND THE ELDERLY	1

**Q7b – Where do you recall seeing / hearing about the Scottish Information Commissioner?**

<b>Response</b>	<b>No</b>
DUNDEE 2YR'S AGO IN A SEMINAR / AT A CONFERENCE	2
EDINBURGH COUNCIL	1
HUSBAND COUNSOLER	1
SOLICITORS OFFICE	1
BANK	1

**What is your ethnic origin?**

<b>Response</b>	<b>No</b>
ASIAN BRITISH	1
PERSIAN	1