

19/12/2018

Our ref: FOI 66

Dear [REDACTED]

REQUEST UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION (SCOTLAND) ACT 2002 (FOISA)

Thank you for your request received by us on 31st October 2018 under the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 ("FOISA") for the following information:

Your request:

I wish to understand what revenues the Crown Estate Scotland receives from salmon farming.

1A. Please outline all the various levies, rents, license payments that can be received from the salmon farming industry in Scotland?

1B. Please provide details on how these levies, licenses, sea floor rents are applied and at what rates and how they are calculated? For example, the levy applied to gutted weight of fish.

1C. Please provide actual amounts of revenues received from the salmon farming sector in 2017. Please break this down into constituent elements, for example sea floor rents, levies, licenses.

2. Please provide details of all of the revenues paid by each of the following companies for the period 2017/2018

Our response:

1A. We receive a rent based on harvested production, namely a tariff of £27.50 per harvested gutted weight tonne of fish, discounted by 10% for production from leases in Shetland, Orkney and Western Isles. Where there is no production from a lease in any calendar year (farmed salmon production cycles mean sites harvest every second year), a 'vacant rent' is charged.

1B. Rent is charged annually, based on the harvested production of the immediately preceding calendar year which must be reported by the tenant to Crown Estate Scotland by January 31st. Rents are arrived at through independent 5 yearly reviews that are published on our website. The rent is the levy; the only charges we apply to salmon farming tenants is rent, as described.

1C. The following link will direct you to our Annual Report and Account 17/18. Here on page 38 you will find details of revenue generated. This may not be broken down as requested - all revenue generated is by means of rent. <https://www.crownestatescotland.com/maps-and-publications/download/221>

2. We consider this information commercially sensitive. For this reason, we have chosen to apply exemption 33(1)(b) of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 (FOISA). Disclosure would (or would be likely to) prejudice substantially the commercial interests of any person or organisation.

Your right to request a review

You have a right under FOISA to request a review of this decision. If you wish to exercise this right, you must write to us to request a review within forty working days of receipt of this decision. Your request for a review must be in writing and you must specify your name and address for correspondence. You should also specify your reasons for requesting a review. Should you wish to request a review, please address your request to enquiries@crownestatescotland.com.

If you are dissatisfied with the outcome of a review, you have a right to apply to the Scottish Information Commissioner for a decision. If you wish to do so, you must apply to the Commissioner within six months following the date of receipt of the review notice.

The Commissioner's contact details are:

The Scottish Information Commissioner

Kinburn Castle
Doubledykes Road
St Andrews
Fife KY16 9DS
Email: enquiries@itspublicknowledge.info
Tel: 01334 464610

The Commissioner also has an online appeal portal which can be accessed at this link:
<http://www.itspublicknowledge.info/YourRights/Unhappywiththeresponse/AppealingtoCommissioner.aspx>

Yours sincerely



Business Information Coordinator
Crown Estate Scotland (Interim Management)