

250723 (180) FOI Support to Alcohol Industries

From: [Freedom of Information](#)
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [Freedom of Information](#)
Subject: Freedom of Information Request
Date: 23 July 2025 09:08:24
Attachments: [REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request of 25 June 2025. We are responding to you under the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 [FOISA].

FOI REQUEST (25 June 2025)

Under the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002, I am writing to request the following information regarding public investment in alcohol-related industries, including but not limited to the whisky and spirits sector:

1. Public Grants and Financial Support

Please provide a list of all companies operating in the alcohol industry that have received public funding, support, or investment from your agency since 1 January 2010, including:

- Company name
- Amount awarded (grant, loan, or equity investment)
- Type of support (grant/loan/equity/in-kind support)
- Year(s) of award
- Stated purpose of funding
- Current status of funding (e.g. repaid, written off, ongoing)

If applicable, please include both direct and indirect beneficiaries, such as alcohol supply chain partners (e.g. bottling, marketing, distillation equipment, etc.).

2. Due Diligence and Ethical Oversight

Please provide any internal documentation, board papers, or ministerial correspondence where consideration was given to:

- Potential conflict between support for alcohol producers and public health goals
- Alignment (or contradiction) with Scottish Government health policies, including alcohol harm reduction, minimum unit pricing, and prevention strategies
- Any ethical review frameworks used to assess applications from alcohol-related companies

3. Campaign or Event Sponsorship

Please list any alcohol companies that have received funding or co-sponsorship from your agency for events, trade missions, export promotion, or branding exercises since 2010.

4. Collaboration with Public Health Bodies

Please confirm whether your agency has consulted with Public Health Scotland or any NHS board regarding the impact of public investment in the alcohol sector.

RESPONSE

- List of companies operating in the alcohol industry that have received SOSE funding.

(a) Company Name	(b) Amount Awarded	(c) Type of Support	(d) Year of Award	(e) Stated purpose of funding	(f) Current Status
Payman Holdings 8 Ltd (Douglas Arms - Castle Douglas)	£95,000	Grant	2020-21	Adapt the upstairs rooms.	Complete
Born in Scotland (Scottish Borders Brewery Ltd)	£50,000	Grant	2020-21	Installation of Canning Facility	Complete
Crafty Distillery Ltd	£28,638	Grant	2020-21	Redesign of bottle	Complete
Jackson Distillers	£17,667	Grant	2020-21	Support with the costs of a drainage and water impact assessment	Complete
Douglas Arms (The) - Dumfries	£2,800	Grant	2020-21	Support with business resilience, diversification and sustainability	Complete
Born in Scotland (Scottish Borders Brewery Ltd)	£96,000	Grant	2020-21	Covid Crisis Fund	Complete
Broughton Ales	£67,205	Grant	2020-21	Covid Crisis Fund	Complete
Drysdale's Catering and Bars	£26,134	Grant	2020-21	Covid Crisis Fund	Complete
Robert Anderson T/A Glenisle Inn	£12,053	Grant	2020-21	Covid Crisis Fund	Complete
Traquair Arms	£26,401	Grant	2020-21	Covid Crisis Fund	Complete
Broughton Ales Ltd	£88,800	Grant	2021-22	Covid Crisis Fund	Complete
Five Kingdoms Brewery Limited (Become Interactive)	£924	Expert help	2021-22	Expert Help	Complete
Glentarras Distillery Ltd t/a	£1,262	Expert help	2021-22	Expert Help	Complete

Comlongon Castle (Mabbett Associates)					
Glentarras Distillery Ltd t/a Comlongon Castle (Mabbett Associates)	£92	Expert help	2021-22	Expert Help	Complete
Jackson Distillers	£174,000	Grant	2021-22	Mitigation of project delays	Complete
R&B Distillers (Become Interactive)	£924	Expert help	2021-22	Expert help	Complete
The Laurie Arms Ltd	£9,090	Grant	2021-22	Create outdoor shelter in garden area	Complete
Demijohn Ltd	£25,215	Grant	2022-23	Develop local 'Food & Drink Hub'	Complete
Five Kingdoms Brewery	£15,000	Grant	2022-23	Purchase equipment to double brewing and bottling capacity	Complete
Durty Brewing Ltd	£63,600	Grant	2022-23	Redevelopment of unoccupied building to a tap room and distillery	Complete
The Grahamslaw Distillery	£1,344,784	Grant	2023-24	Project Fir	Ongoing
Durty Brewing Ltd	£8,039	Grant	2024-25	Vessels for increased capacity for production to hospitality	Complete
Broughton Ales Ltd	£50,000	Loan	2024-25	Working capital loan	Ongoing

2.
 - a. None.
 - b. None.
 - c. From July 2023, all businesses (including alcohol producing) must adhere to Fair Work policies including the payment of the real living wage. This is standard for all organisations SOSE support. For any business receiving >£350k in financial support from SOSE, we must undertake an Integrated Quality and Farer Scotland Duty Impact Assessment.
3. None. SOSE has not undertaken any event activities.
4. None. SOSE has not been required to consult with Public Health Scotland or any NHS board.

You have the right to request a review of the way in which this request has been processed. Should you wish to exercise this right, you will need to contact us within 40 working days of receipt of this email.

If you remain dissatisfied on completion of the review, you have the right to appeal to the Office of the Scottish Information Commissioner and thereafter to the Court of Session on a point of law only:

Scottish Information Commissioner
 Kinburn Castle
 Doubledykes Road
 St Andrews
 Fife
 KY16 9DS
 Telephone: 01334 464610
www.foi.scot
 or for online appeals:
www.foi.scot/appeal

Regards,
 SOSE Corporate Relations Team
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