230720 (091) FOI Funding to Building Futures Galloway

From: Freedom of Information To: Cc: Freedom of Information Subject: Freedom of Information Request 20 July 2023 14:39:00

Date: Attachments:

Dear

Thank you for your request of 23 June 2023 regarding SOSE funding to Buildings Futures Galloway. Your request has been considered by South of Scotland Enterprise (SOSE) under the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 and we are pleased to provide you with the following response.

FOI REQUEST (23 June 2023):

I would like to request information regarding a funding application for £250,000 for the Old Town Hall, Whithorn by Building Futures Galloway. January - March 2022 Enterprise Grant Awards.

My Freedom of information request is outlined below:

- 1. Could you please advise exactly what the £250,000 funding was to be used for?
- 2. Could you confirm the dates of this funding application?
- 3. Who was the application completed by and on behalf of who?
- 4. Has the funding been paid out to Building Futures Galloway?
- If not, why?
- 5. If it has, has the funding been spent or part of it spent?
- 6. Did Building Futures Galloway confirm that they had carried out a public consultation for the work?
- 7. If you could also please forward us a copy of the application form.

FOI RESPONSE:

- 1. The grant was to be used to:
 - Purchase and refurbish Whithorn Old Town Hall into a larger and better placed museum for Whithorn
 - Development of a successful programme for young people to get into construction
- 2. The project was presented to SOSE's funding panel on 9 March 2022.
- 3. The application was completed by a representative from Building Futures Galloway Ltd. Under the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 section 38(1)(b) - personal data - we would not disclose details of individual names.
- 4. The full grant award has been paid.
- 5. All funding has been spent.

6. SOSE do not hold this information therefore apply Section 17(1) of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 to notify you that we do not have the information you requested.

7. In this instance, we would not provide an organisation's appraisal or application documentation and apply FOISA section 33(1)(b) – substantial prejudice to commercial interests where disclosure would (or would be likely to) prejudice substantially the commercial interests of any person, "Person" includes a public authority, company and partnership. The use of this exemption requires SOSE to consider the public interest in both disclosing and not disclosing the information, and in this case, it has been decided the public interest is in withholding the information. SOSE would not want to prejudice substantially the commercial position of any organisation by disclosing information.

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

http://www.itspublicknowledge.info

or for online appeals:

www.itspublicknowledge.info/Appeal

Regards,
SOSE Corporate Relations
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www.southofscotlandenterprise.com