

Section 31: Duty to provide information on certain expenditure incurred during 2020/21.

During the year ending 31 March 2021, the Standards Commission for Scotland incurred expenditure associated with the categories provided within section 31 of the Public Services Reform (Scotland) Act 2010 as follows:

Section 31 (2) Expenditure		
(a) Public Relations		
Description		Annual Expenditure (£)
External PR Expenditure		6,598
*Internal PR Expenditure – see explanatory note 1		7,424
TOTAL		14,022
(b) Overseas Travel		
Description		Annual Expenditure (£)
None		0
(c) Hospitality and Entertainment		
Payee	Description	Annual Expenditure (£)
None		0
(d) External Consultancy		
Payee	Description	Annual Expenditure (£)
Andrew Ferguson - Scottish Local Government Consultant		5,400
Section 31 (3) Payments in Excess of £25,000		
Individual Payment greater than £25,000		
Description		Annual Expenditure (£)
None		0
Multiple Payments greater than £25,000		
Description		Annual Expenditure (£)
None		0
Section 31 (4) Members or employees who received remuneration in excess of £150,000.		
Description		Annual Expenditure (£)
None		0

* **Note 1:** Costs associated with the provision of internal public relations activities have been calculated as follows:

- Total staff costs including employer national insurance and pensions contributions amounted to £190,239.
- During 2020/21 the Standards Commission for Scotland employed 2.76 full time employees which equates to 604 working days in the year. Therefore, the average daily rate applied in calculating the estimated cost of staff time in dealing with public relations work is £315 per day.
- Some of the work undertaken by the Standards Commission may include an element which falls within the definition of public relations work as contained within the Scottish Government guidance on compliance with the Public Services Reform (Scotland) Act 2010. These activities include the formulation and dissemination of messages about the work and role of the Standards Commission and on issues concerning the ethical standards framework and acceptable behaviour in public life. As it is not possible to identify the exact amount of time spent by staff on public relations work it has been estimated that the average time spent on these activities is two days per month.
- Therefore, staff costs for conducting and supporting public relations activities during 2020/21 was £7,562.

Sarah Nicholson
Office Manager

Standards Commission for Scotland
Room T2.21, The Scottish Parliament
Edinburgh
EH99 1SP
Tel: 0131 348 6666

Email: enquiries@standardscommission.org.uk

© Standards Commission for Scotland

You may use and re-use this information (not including the logo) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government Licence v3.0. To view this licence, visit <http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/version/3/>