

SEStran

GUIDE TO INFORMATION AVAILABLE THROUGH OUR PUBLICATION SCHEME

Document Version Control

Date	Author	Version	Status	Reason for Change
2013	SEStran	1.0	MPS granted	FOI
Oct 2017	SEStran	1.1	Policy Reviewed	Review
Oct 2017	SEStran	1.2	Adoption of version control	Implementation
Nov 2018	SEStran	1.3	Policy Reviewed	Review – links updated
Aug 2022	SEStran	1.4	FINAL	Review – links updated

Section 23 of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 (“FOISA”) places a duty on Scottish public authorities to adopt and maintain a publication scheme which must specify:

- The classes of information the authority publishes or intends to publish;
- The way information of each class is, or is intended to be published; and
- Whether the published information is, or is intended to be, available to the public free of charge or on payment.

SEStran has adopted the **Model Publication Scheme** produced by the Scottish Information Commissioner.

SEStran is legally obligated to notify the Commissioner in the event of any changes to our legal status (e.g. through a merger with another authority or a legal change in name).

The Model Publication Scheme 2021 is available here:

<http://www.itspublicknowledge.info/ScottishPublicAuthorities/PublicationSchemes/TheModelPublicationScheme.aspx>

The purpose of this guide is to:

- Allow the public to see what information is available (and what is not available) in relation to each class;
- State what charges may be applied;
- Explain how to find the information easily;
- Provide contact details for enquiries and to get help with accessing the information;
- Explain how the request information we hold that has not been published.

This guide is split into the following six sections:

- Availability and formats
- Exempt information
- Accessing information not included in the Publication Scheme
- Copyright
- Charges

- Contact us
- The classes of information that we publish

Terms used

Term used	Explanation
Model Publication Scheme	A standard of framework for authorities to publish information under FOISA, approved by the Scottish Information Commissioner
MPS	Model publication scheme
Classes of information	Nine broad categories describing the types of information authorities must publish (if they hold it)
FOISA	The Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002
Commissioner	The Scottish Information Commissioner

1. Availability and Formats

The information we publish through the model scheme is, whenever possible, available on our website. We offer alternative arrangements for people who do not want to, or cannot, access the information online or by inspection at our premises. For example, we can usually arrange to send information to you in paper copy (although there may be a charge for this).

2. Exempt information

SEStran's aim is to be as open as possible. However, the Act permits a limited number of exemptions from the requirement to disclose information.

There may be some circumstances where it is necessary to withhold information from any of the classes of information set out in this scheme where we consider that disclosure, for example, may prejudice law enforcement or legal proceedings, may be exempt or where the disclosure is otherwise prohibited by law.

We may also withhold information that may prejudice the commercial interests or confidentiality of any person or organisation, including SEStran, and information which is personal information under the Data Protection Act 1998.

In these cases, we will withhold the information and indicate why the information is being withheld.

3. Accessing information not included in the Publication Scheme

As indicated, this scheme lists the information that is or will be routinely made available. However, members of the public have further rights that enable them to access information from SEStran.

Since 1 January 2005, members of the public have had the right to access information from Scottish Public Authorities (Section 1 of the Act). On 3 April 2006, SEStran was designated as a Scottish Public Authority. Therefore, members of the public have the right to access information held by SEStran or held on behalf of SEStran subject to certain exceptions and conditions.

The process of obtaining information under section 1 of the Act (Freedom of Information request) is different than obtaining information under the publication scheme.

Before submitting a Freedom of Information request you should check our website as SEStran places a large amount of information on the website.

However, if you wish to submit a Freedom of Information request, the request must be in writing or in some other permanent recordable form such as an e-mail. The requests should:

- Describe the information requested;
- State an address for correspondence;
- Preferably provide a contact number (in case we need to contact you to clarify the information requested);
- State the format in which you would wish to receive the information.

SEStran wishes to assist applicants and therefore we may contact you to clarify the exact nature of the information requested to discuss the format of the information with you.

Our staff that are responsible for this scheme would be happy to assist you if you wish to contact them with any requests.

4. Copyright

Information obtained from this publication scheme generally can be copied or reproduced without formal permission from SEStran, provided it is copied and reproduced accurately and is not used in a misleading, defamatory or prejudicial context and provided you identify the source of the material and SEStran's copyright status is acknowledged.

Please note that any of the material published in terms of this publication scheme remains the copyright © of SEStran unless otherwise stated. Commercial exploitation or reproduction of this material is prohibited. Any requested concerning the publication of material on a commercial basis should be made in writing.

Some of the material available by the publication scheme may be subject to third party copyright. You should seek the consent of the copyright owner if you wish to reproduce any of this information.

Some works produced by the government qualify for Crown copyright protection which means that some of these materials can be reproduced without a licence. More details of these categories can be found at:

<https://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/legal/copyright/crown-copyright-and-our-website/>

Any Ordnance Survey mapping included within any material reproduced as part of the publication scheme is provided to SEStran under a licence from Ordnance Survey and which is being provided as part of the Publication Scheme in order to fulfil its public function. If using material with Ordnance Survey material within the documents, you should contact Ordnance Survey to obtain advice on such use. Ordnance Survey's website is:

<http://www.ordnancesurvey.co.uk>

SEStran will not provide Ordnance Survey mapping in any format that would mean that this would infringe its licence and will not provide Ordnance Survey mapping in digital format.

5. Charges

This section explains when we may make a charge for our publications and how any charge will be calculated. There is no charge to view information on our website or at our premises.

We may charge for providing information to you, but we will charge you no more than it costs us to do so. We will always tell you what the cost is before providing the information to you.

Our photocopying charge per sheet of paper is shown in the tables below:

Black and white photocopying

Size of paper	Pence per sheet of paper
A4	10p

Colour photocopying

Size of paper	Pence per sheet of paper
A4	20p

Information provided on USB will be charged at 50p per device.

Postage costs will be recharged at the rate we paid to send the information to you. Our charge is for sending information by Royal Mail First Class.

When providing copies of pre-printed publications, we will charge no more than the cost per copy, pro rata, of the total print run.

We do not pass on any other costs to you in relation to our published information.

Contact us

You can contact us for assistance with any aspect of this publication scheme:

SEStran, Area 3D (Bridge), Victoria Quay, Edinburgh, EH6 6QQ

T e l : 0131 524 5150 or E-mail: enquiries@sestran.gov.uk

We will also advise you how to ask for information that we do not publish or how to complain if you are dissatisfied with any aspect of this Publication Scheme

6. Classes of information

The classes of information that we publish

We publish information that we hold within the following classes. Once information is published under a class we will continue to make it available for the current and previous two financial years.

Where information has been updated or superseded, only the current version will be available. If you would like to see previous versions, you may make a request to us for that information.

CLASS 1: ABOUT THE PARTNERSHIP

Class description:

Information about the Partnership, who we are, where to find us, how to contact us, how we are managed and our external relations.

The information we publish under this class	How to access it
General Information	
Partnership name	http://www.sestran.gov.uk/contact/

Address and contact details Contact details - customer care and complaint functions	http://www.sestran.gov.uk/contact/
Organisational structure, roles and responsibilities of senior officers Business opening hours	https://sestran.gov.uk/about-us/ 9:00am – 5:00pm
Publication Scheme and guide to information including contact details and advice on how to request information	https://www.sestran.gov.uk/corporate/freedom-of-information/ https://sestran.gov.uk/publications/model-publication-scheme/

Constitution

Legal framework	https://sestran.gov.uk/about-us/
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How the Partnership is run

Names of Chief Officers and Partnership Members, Partnership Committees and decision-making structures, corporate governance, etc	https://sestran.gov.uk/?s=Annual+Report https://sestran.gov.uk/the-board/ https://sestran.gov.uk/our-team/
Governance policies, including standing orders etc	https://sestran.gov.uk/publication-category/governance/

Corporate Planning

Mission statement	https://sestran.gov.uk/about-us/
Corporate strategies	https://sestran.gov.uk/corporate/
Corporate policies, e.g. equality, environmental, etc	https://sestran.gov.uk/publication-category/corporate/
Strategic planning process	https://sestran.gov.uk/publication-category/strategy/

CLASS 2: HOW WE DELIVER OUR FUNCTIONS AND SERVICES

Class description:

Information about our work, our strategy and policies for delivering functions and services and information for our service users.

The information we publish under this class	How to access it
Functions	
Regional Transport Strategy	https://sestran.gov.uk/projects/a-new-regional-transport-strategy-sestran-2035/
RTS Action Plans	https://sestran.gov.uk/projects/a-new-regional-transport-strategy-sestran-2035/
What We Do	https://sestran.gov.uk/about-us/
SEStran Projects	https://sestran.gov.uk/projects/

Committees/Forums	https://sestran.gov.uk/upcoming-meetings/
Community Planning	https://sestran.gov.uk/publications/annual-report-2020-21/
Services	
Timetable Information and Journey Planning	http://www.travelinescotland.com/welcome.do http://www.mybustracker.co.uk/ https://sestran.gov.uk/projects/real-time-passenger-information/
SEStran Thistle Assistance Card	https://www.thistleassistance.com/
Feedback (including complaints/compliments)	https://sestran.gov.uk/contact/

CLASS 3: HOW THE PARTNERSHIP TAKES DECISIONS AND WHAT IT HAS DECIDED

Class description:

Information about the decisions we take, how we make decisions and how we involve others.

The information we publish under this class	How to access it
Decision Making	
Agendas and minutes of Partnership meetings and its committees	https://sestran.gov.uk/upcoming-meetings/ https://sestran.gov.uk/past-meetings/
The Regional Transport Strategy for the South East of Scotland	https://sestran.gov.uk/projects/a-new-regional-transport-strategy-sestran-2035/
List of Partnership Members	https://sestran.gov.uk/the-board/
Governance Documents	
Partnership Governance Scheme	https://sestran.gov.uk/publication-category/governance/
Code of conduct	https://sestran.gov.uk/publications/code-of-conduct/
Environmental Impact Assessment Reports undertaken in compliance with the Town and Country Assessment) (Scotland) Regulations 2017	SEStran does not currently hold any Environmental Impact Assessment Reports

CLASS 4: WHAT THE PARTNERSHIP SPENDS AND HOW IT SPENDS IT

Class description:

Information about our strategy for, and management of, financial resources (in sufficient detail to explain how we plan to spend public money and what has been spent.

The information we publish under this class	How to access it
Annual audited accounts	https://sestran.gov.uk/publications/annual-audited-accounts-2020-2021/
Annual budgets - capital and revenue	https://sestran.gov.uk/publications/business-plan-2021-2024/
Public Service Reform (Scotland) Act 2010 statements	https://sestran.gov.uk/publications/public-services-reform-act-scotland-2021-report/
Financial Regulations	https://sestran.gov.uk/publications/sestran-governance-scheme/

CLASS 5: HOW THE PARTNERSHIP MANAGES ITS HUMAN, PHYSICAL AND INFORMATION RESOURCES

Class description:

Information about how we manage the human, physical and information resources of the Partnership.

The information we publish under this class	How to access it
Human Resources	
Staff Policies	https://sestran.gov.uk/publication-category/policy/
Conditions of Service	http://www.sestran.gov.uk/contact/
Equality Approach including Disability, Gender, and Race	https://sestran.gov.uk/publication-category/policy/
Careers at SEStran	https://sestran.gov.uk/vacancies/
Physical Resources	
SEStran Property Information	http://www.sestran.gov.uk/contact/
Sustainable and Active Travel Grant Scheme	https://sestran.gov.uk/projects/

CLASS 6: HOW THE PARTNERSHIP PROCURES GOODS AND SERVICES FROM EXTERNAL PROVIDERS

Class description:

Information about how we procure goods and services, and our contracts with external providers.

The information we publish under this class	How to access it
Contracts Standing Orders	https://www.sestran.gov.uk/publications/sestran-governance-scheme/
Past Tenders Awarded	https://sestran.gov.uk/publications/tenders-awarded-by-sestran/
Information published in accordance with the Procurement Reform (Scotland) Act 2014, the Procurement (Scotland) Regulations 2016 and the Public Contracts (Scotland) Regulations 2015	https://sestran.gov.uk/publications/public-services-reform-act-scotland-2021-report/ https://sestran.gov.uk/publications/sestran-governance-scheme/
Register of contracts awarded, which have gone through formal tendering, including name of supplier, period of contract and value	https://sestran.gov.uk/publications/register-of-contrats-awarded-2018-19/ https://www.publiccontractsscotland.gov.uk/search/Search_AuthProfile.aspx?ID=AA13442
Links to procurement information the authority publishes on the Public Contracts Scotland Website	https://www.publiccontractsscotland.gov.uk/search/Search_AuthProfile.aspx?ID=AA13442

CLASS 7: HOW THE PARTNERSHIP IS PERFORMING

Class description:

Information about how the Partnership performs as an organisation, and how well it delivers its functions and services.

The information we publish under this class	How to access it
Annual report	https://sestran.gov.uk/publications/annual-report-2020-21/
Mainstreaming Equality Reports produced under the Equality Act 2010 (Specific Duties) (Scotland) Regulations 2012, as amended.	https://www.sestran.gov.uk/?s=equalities
Employee and board equality monitoring reports, produced under the Equality Act 2010 (Specific Duties) (Scotland) Regulations 2012, as amended	https://www.sestran.gov.uk/?s=equalities

CLASS 8: OUR COMMERCIAL PUBLICATIONS

Class description:

Information packaged and made available for sale on a commercial basis and sold at market value through a retail outlet e.g. bookshop, museum or research journal.

The information we publish under this class	How to access it
Information packaged and made available for sale on a commercial basis sold at market value through a retail outlet	We do not hold or publish information under this category.

CLASS 9: OPEN DATA

Class description:

Information regarding the Scottish Government's Open Data Strategy and links to SEStran's Open Data.

The information we publish under this class	How to access it
Open Data	http://www.sestran.gov.uk/corporate/open-data/