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15 March 2007

Dear Mr Stewart,

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION: 2007-010270

Thank you for your request for information relating to Duncan Cantor, which we received on 16 February. Your request has been handled in accordance with the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002.

Some of the information you requested is not held by us and therefore we cannot provide it to you.

Firstly, I can confirm that Mr Cantor has been seconded to act as Secretary to the Cross Party Group on Scottish Economy and has an MSP Staff pass. Although Mr Cantor has an email account, he is not covered by the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act (FOISA), as stated in the Scottish Information Commissioner's ruling from 2005:

http://www.itspublicknowledge.info/appealsdecisions/decisions/Documents/decision008.htm

That said, members of the Scottish Parliamentary Corporate Body are covered by FOISA and having checked their records, no information is held.

Information about Mr Cantor's employment can be found on the Cross Party Group's section of the Parliament's website:

http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/msp/crossPartyGroups/groups/cpg-scotecon.htm

From the attached shortcut, you will see that Mr Cantor has been seconded to work at the Parliament until May 2007.

http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/msp/crossPartyGroups/groups/scotecon/2006.09.27CPGontheScottishEconomyAnnualReturn2006.pdf

We would welcome feedback or comment on how we handled your request. Please feel free to contact the FOI Specialist at The Scottish Parliament, Edinburgh, EH99 1SP or by e-mail at foi.officer@scottish.parliament.uk

Please find below Annex A, which explains how we handle FOI requests and reviews.

Yours sincerely,

Simon Macauley FOI Specialist