

# RENFREWSHIRE VALUATION JOINT BOARD



## GUIDE TO INFORMATION AVAILABLE THROUGH THE SCOTTISH INFORMATION COMMISSIONER'S MODEL PUBLICATION SCHEME

<b>Title</b>	Guide to Information Available Through The Scottish Information Commissioner's Model Publication Scheme
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<b>Approved By</b>	Management Team
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<b>Reviewer</b>	Divisional Assessor
<b>Review Date</b>	As required

### Review History

<b>Review No.</b>	<b>Details</b>	<b>Release Date</b>
1	• Updated Policy	October 2017

<b>Terms Used</b>	
<b>Term Used</b>	<b>Explanation</b>
FOISA	The Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act
EIRs	The Environmental Information (Scotland) Regulations 2004
Model Publication Scheme	A standard framework for authorities to publish information under FOISA, approved by the Scottish Information Commissioner
MPS	The Model Publication Scheme
Guide to Information	A guide that every public authority adopting the MPS must produce to help people access the information it makes available
MPS Principles	The six key principles with which all information published under the MPS must comply
Classes of Information	Nine broad categories describing the types of information authorities must publish (if they hold it)
Notification Form	The form an authority must submit to notify the Commissioner of its adoption of the MPS
Re-use Regulations	The re-use of Public Sector Information Regulations 2015
Copyright Law	The Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988
TNA	The National Archives
SAA	Scottish Assessors Association
Assessor	Statutory official appointed by local Valuation Authority
ERO	Electoral Registration Officer
Valuation Roll	List of non-domestic properties for the Valuation Area with appropriate Rateable Valuations as a basis for rates bills
Council Tax List	List of domestic properties within the Valuation Area with appropriate Bands
Electoral Register	List of electors registered to vote
Valuation Appeal Committee Hearings	Meetings of the Local Valuation Appeal Committee
Valuation Local Instructions	Local Guidance Notes used to assist staff in valuing certain non-domestic properties
Key Performance Indicators	A measure of how Renfrewshire Valuation Joint Board has performed over the year on <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. New subjects entering the Council Tax List</li> <li>2. Changes to the Valuation Roll, including new and altered entries</li> </ol>
Public Performance Report	Report on Annual Performance of Renfrewshire Valuation Joint Board
Portal Data Custodian	Administrator of data published on the Scottish Assessors Association website

# **Renfrewshire Valuation Joint Board / Assessor for Renfrewshire Valuation Joint Board**

## **GUIDE TO INFORMATION AVAILABLE THROUGH THE MODEL PUBLICATION SCHEME 2017**

The Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 (the Act) requires Scottish public authorities to produce and maintain a publication scheme. Authorities are under a legal obligation to:

- **publish the classes of information that they make routinely available**
- **tell the public how to access the information and what it might cost.**

Renfrewshire Valuation Joint Board and the Assessor for Renfrewshire Valuation Joint Board have adopted the **Model Publication Scheme** produced by the Scottish Information Commissioner.

You can see this scheme on the Commissioner's website at [www.itspublicknowledge.info](http://www.itspublicknowledge.info) or by contacting us at the address below.

Renfrewshire Valuation Joint Board  
The Robertson Centre  
16 Glasgow Road  
Paisley  
PA1 3QF

**Tel: 0300 300 0150**  
**Fax: 0141 618 5999**

**Email: [assessor@renfrewshire-vjb.gov.uk](mailto:assessor@renfrewshire-vjb.gov.uk)**

The purpose of this Guide to Information is to:

- **allow you to see what information is available (and what is not available) in relation to each class.**
- **state what charges may be applied.**
- **explain how you can find the information easily.**
- **provide contact details for enquiries and to get help with accessing the information.**
- **explain how to request information we hold that has not been published.**
- **Explain how you can re-use public sector information**

This Guide is split into the following sections:-

- Availability and Formats
- Exempt Information
- Copyright
- Re-Use of public sector information
- Charges
- Contact Us
- Notifying the Commissioner
- The Classes of Information that we Publish
- How to access information which is not available under this scheme
- Requests for your own personal data

## Availability and formats

The information we publish through the model scheme is, wherever 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).

## Exempt information

We will publish the information we hold that falls within the classes of information below. If a document contains information that is exempt under Scotland's freedom of information laws (for example sensitive personal information or a trade secret), we may remove or redact the information before publication but we will explain why.

## Copyright

Where Renfrewshire Valuation Joint Board or the Assessor for Renfrewshire Valuation Joint Board holds the copyright in its published information, the information may be copied or reproduced without formal permission, provided that:

- **it is copied or reproduced accurately**
- **it is not used in a misleading context, and**
- **the source of the material is identified**

Where Renfrewshire Valuation Joint Board or the Assessor for Renfrewshire Valuation Joint Board does not hold the copyright in information we publish, we will make this clear.

## Re-Use of Published Information

The Assessor is not a Public Sector Body in terms of the Re-use of Public Sector Information Regulations 2015. Therefore the statement below only applies to information held by Renfrewshire Valuation Joint Board in pursuit of its public task.

The business of the Valuation Joint Board falls into five main categories, Council Tax, Non-Domestic Rating, Electoral Registration, IT and other Business Support Services (such as personnel, finance etc), though, as above, Valuation Rolls, Council Tax Valuation Lists, Electoral Registers and their supporting data will not be covered.

More information including the Valuation Joint Board's information asset list, our charges and how to request to re-use our information can be found this [LINK](#)

## **Charges**

This section explains when we may make a charge for our publications and how any charge will be calculated.

Unless otherwise stated, all information contained within our scheme is available from us free of charge where it can be viewed on our website or where it can be sent to you electronically by email. There is also no charge to view information at our premises.

We reserve the right to impose charges for providing information in other formats. Charges will reflect the actual costs of reproduction and postage to the authority, as set out below. In the event that a charge is to be levied, you will be advised of the charge and how it has been calculated. Information will not be provided to you until payment has been received.

VAT will be charged where appropriate

## **Reproduction costs**

Where charges are applied, photocopied information will be charged at a standard rate of 10p per A4 side of paper (black and white copy) and 30p per A4 side of paper (colour copy).

Computer discs will be charged at the rate of £1.00 per CD-ROM.

## **Postage cost**

We will pass on postage charges to the requester at the cost to the authority of sending the information by first class post.

For the avoidance of doubt these costs relate to the delivering of information which is otherwise free.

## **Fixed Charge Publications**

There are a small number of pre-printed publications for which the Assessor for Renfrewshire Valuation Joint Board makes a charge. These documents include the Valuation Roll, Council Tax List and Electoral Register.

The costs for these documents are detailed below:

### **Valuation Rolls**

#### **Definition:**

“List of non-domestic properties for the Valuation Area with appropriate Rateable Valuations as a basis for rates bills.”

#### **Availability:**

Website ( [www.saa.gov.uk](http://www.saa.gov.uk) ). Electronic format from the Portal Data Custodian at the office of the:-

Assessor for Grampian Valuation Joint Board  
Woodhill House  
Westburn Road  
Aberdeen  
AB16 5GE

Tel: 01224 664360

Fax: 01224 664361

e-mail: [datacustodian@saa.gov.uk](mailto:datacustodian@saa.gov.uk)

Cost £50

The Valuation Roll can be viewed free of charge at our office, some Local Council Offices and main libraries.

## **Costs in paper format**

£60 Per Local Authority Area

## **Council Tax Lists**

### **Definition:**

“List of domestic properties within the Valuation Area with appropriate Bands”

### **Availability:**

Website ( [www.saa.gov.uk](http://www.saa.gov.uk) ). Electronic format or from the Portal Data Custodian at the office of the:-

Assessor for Grampian Valuation Joint Board  
Woodhill House  
Westburn Road  
Aberdeen  
AB16 5GE

Tel: 01224 664360

Fax: 01224 664361

e-mail: [datacustodian@saa.gov.uk](mailto:datacustodian@saa.gov.uk)

Cost £50

The Council Tax List can be viewed free of charge at our office, some Local Council Offices and main libraries.

## **Costs in paper format**

£75 Per Local Authority Area

Extract certificates from the Council Tax Roll or Valuation Roll do not fall within any class of this publication scheme, but we do provide extract certificates and photocopies from the Valuation Roll and Council Tax List.

The cost for this additional service can be obtained by contacting us at:

Renfrewshire Valuation Joint Board  
The Robertson Centre  
16 Glasgow Road  
Paisley  
PA1 3QG

Tel : 0300 300 0150

[assessor@renfrewshire-vjb.gov.uk](mailto:assessor@renfrewshire-vjb.gov.uk)



## **Electoral Register (Open or Edited Version)**

### **Definition:**

“Open version of the Register of Electors. This version does not include the names of those electors whose names appear in the Full version of the Register but who have taken advantage of the Representation of the People Legislation and chosen to have their names excluded from the Open version of the Register, which can be sold to anyone.”

### **Availability:**

Paper copies and an electronic copy of the Open Register can be inspected at the Board's offices at The Robertson Centre, 16 Glasgow Road, Paisley, PA1 3QG.

### **Cost:**

Per Representation of the People (Scotland) Regulations 2001.

### **If in Data Format**

The fee for purchasing a copy of the register in data format, is at the rate of £20 per Constituency plus £1.50 for each 1,000 entries (or remaining part of 1,000 entries) in it.

### **Or if Printed**

The fee for purchasing a copy of the register in the printed form, is at the rate of £10 plus £5 for each 1,000 entries (or remaining part of 1,000 entries) in it.

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

This charging schedule does not apply to our commercial publications (see Class 8 below). These items are offered for sale through retail outlets such as book shops, academic journal websites or museum shops and their price reflects a 'market value' which may include the cost of production.

## **Contact us**

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

Renfrewshire Valuation Joint Board  
The Robertson Centre  
16 Glasgow Road  
Paisley

**Tel: 0300 300 0150**

**Fax: 0141 618 5999**

**Email: [assessor@renfrewshire-vjb.gov.uk](mailto:assessor@renfrewshire-vjb.gov.uk)**

We will also be pleased to 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.

## **Notifying the Commissioner**

In accordance with paragraph 9(ii) of the Scottish Information Commissioner's Model Publication Scheme, Renfrewshire Valuation Joint Board and the Assessor for Renfrewshire Valuation Joint Board undertake to notify the Commissioner if their legal status changes.

## **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 Renfrewshire Valuation Joint Board and Assessor for Renfrewshire Valuation Joint Board
- CLASS 2 : How we deliver our Functions and Services
- CLASS 3 : How we take Decisions and what we have Decided
- CLASS 4 : What we Spend and how we Spend it
- CLASS 5 : How we Manage our Human, Physical and Information Resources
- CLASS 6 : How we Procure Goods and Services from External Providers
- CLASS 7 : How we are Performing
- CLASS 8 : Our Commercial Publications
- CLASS 9 : Our Open Data

### **Notes:**

Renfrewshire Valuation Joint Board and the Assessor for Renfrewshire Valuation Joint Board are required to publish the information they hold which falls within the classes of the Model Publication Scheme. If we do not hold information within a class, this is indicated under the class description below.

## **CLASS 1: ABOUT RENFREWSHIRE VALUATION JOINT BOARD AND ASSESSOR FOR RENFREWSHIRE VALUATION JOINT BOARD**

### **Class description:**

Information about Renfrewshire Valuation Joint Board and the Assessor for Renfrewshire Valuation Joint Board, who we are, where to find us, how to contact us, how we are managed and our external relations.

<b>The information we publish under this class</b>	<b>How to access it</b>
General Information	RVJB website
Addresses and contact details	RVJB website
The Assessor and her Department	RVJB website
Complaints Procedure	RVJB website
Publication Scheme and Guide to Information	RVJB website
Other Assessors	RVJB website, SAA website
The Board	RVJB website
Membership	RVJB website
Governance policies	RVJB website
Equality Duty and Statistics	RVJB website

## **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.

<b>The information we publish under this class</b>	<b>How to access it</b>
Service plan	RVJB website
Valuation Roll	SAA website, inspection, purchase
Valuation Practice Notes	RVJB website, SAA website
Council Tax List	SAA website, inspection, purchase
Valuation Appeal procedures	RVJB website
Valuation Appeal Committee Hearings	SAA website
Electoral Register	Inspection, purchase of Edited Register

## **CLASS 3: HOW WE TAKE DECISIONS AND WHAT WE HAVE DECIDED**

### **Class description:**

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

<b>The information we publish under this class</b>	<b>How to access it</b>
Board agendas and minutes of meetings	RVJB website, Renfrewshire Council website
Reports to the Board	RVJB website, Renfrewshire Council website
Annual Audit Report	RVJB website

#### **CLASS 4: WHAT WE SPEND AND HOW WE SPEND 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 actually been spent).

<b>The information we publish under this class</b>	<b>How to access it</b>
Financial regulations	RVJB website
Audited Accounts	RVJB website
Budget Reports	RVJB website
Tender Procedures	RVJB website
Reports to the Board	RVJB website

#### **CLASS 5: HOW WE MANAGE OUR HUMAN, PHYSICAL AND INFORMATION RESOURCES**

**Class description:**

Information about how we manage the human, physical and information resources of Renfrewshire Valuation Joint Board and the Assessor for Renfrewshire Valuation Joint Board.

<b>The information we publish under this class</b>	<b>How to access it</b>
Retention Schedule	RVJB website
Records Management	RVJB website
Our Policies	RVJB website
Public Performance Report	RVJB website
Electoral Standards Report	RVJB website

#### **CLASS 6: HOW WE PROCURE GOODS AND SERVICES FROM EXTERNAL PROVIDERS**

**Class description:**

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

<b>The information we publish under this class</b>	<b>How to access it</b>
Tender procedures	RVJB website
Register of Contracts Awarded	RVJB website

#### **CLASS 7: HOW WE ARE PERFORMING**

**Class description:**

Information about how we perform as an organisation, and how well we deliver our functions and services.

<b>The information we publish under this class</b>	<b>How to access it</b>
Public Performance Report	RVJB website
Electoral Standards Report	RVJB website

**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
NONE	

**CLASS 9: OUR OPEN DATA****Class description:**

Open Data made available by the authority as described by the Scottish Government's Open Data Strategy and Resource Pack, available under an open data licence.

The information we publish under this class	How to access it
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Total number of Non-Domestic Properties and Total Rateable Value subjects per Local Authority Area</li><li>○ The Number of Non-Domestic Properties by Category Code and Total Rateable Value in each Local Authority Area</li><li>○ Number of properties by Council Tax Band in each Local Authority Area</li><li>○ Information on Updates to the Scottish Assessors Association's Portal</li><li>○ Statistical Details of Non-Domestic Revaluation Appeals</li></ul>	<p><a href="https://www.saa.vjb.vjb.gov.uk/freedom-of-information/vjb-statistics/">https://www.saa.vjb.vjb.gov.uk/freedom-of-information/vjb-statistics/</a></p>

## HOW TO ACCESS INFORMATION WHICH IS NOT AVAILABLE UNDER THIS SCHEME (NOT SHOWN IN THIS GUIDE TO INFORMATION)

If the information you are seeking is not available under this publication scheme, then you may wish to request it from us. The Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 (FOISA) provides you with a right of access to the information we hold, subject to certain exemptions. The Environmental Information (Scotland) Regulations 2004 (EIRs) separately provide a right of access to the environmental information we hold, while the Data Protection Act 1998 (DPA) provides a right of access to any personal information about you that we hold. Again, these rights are subject to certain exceptions or exemptions.

Should you wish to request a copy of any information that we hold that is not available under this scheme, please write to

Kate A Crawford BSc MRICS IRRV(Hons) AEA  
Assessor  
Renfrewshire Valuation Joint Board  
The Robertson Centre  
16 Glasgow Road  
Paisley  
PA1 3QF

0300 300 0150

0141 618 5999

[assessor@renfrewshire-vjb.gov.uk](mailto:assessor@renfrewshire-vjb.gov.uk)

### Charges For Information Which Is Not Available Under The Scheme

The charges for information which **is** available under this scheme are set out under the section on **Charges** above. If you submit a request to us for information which **is not** available under the scheme the charges will be based on the following calculations:

#### General Information Requests

- There will be no charge for information requests which cost us £100 or less to process.
- Where information costs between £100 and £600 to provide you may be asked to pay 10% of the cost. That is, if you were to ask for information that cost us £600 to provide, you would be asked to pay £50, calculated on the basis of a waiver for the first £100 and 10% of the remaining £500.
- We are not obliged to respond to requests which will cost us over £600 to process.
- In calculating any fee, staff time will be calculated at actual cost per staff member hourly salary rate to a maximum of £15 per person per hour.
- We do not charge for the time to determine whether we hold the information requested, nor for the time it takes to decide whether the information can be released. Charges may be made for locating, retrieving and providing information to you.
- In the event that we decide to impose a charge we will issue you with notification of the charge (a fees notice) and how it has been calculated. You will have three months from the date of issue of the fees notice in which to decide whether to pay the charge. The information will be provided to you on payment of the charge. If you decide not to proceed with the request there will be no charge to you.

## **Charges for Environmental Information**

We do not charge for the time to determine whether we hold the information requested, nor for the time it takes to decide whether the information can be released. Charges may be made for locating, retrieving and providing information to you.

In the event that we decide to impose a charge we will issue you with notification of the charge and how it has been calculated. The information will be provided to you on payment of the charge. If you decide not to proceed with the request there will be no charge to you.

Charges are calculated on the basis of the actual cost to the authority of providing the information.

- Photocopying is charged at 10p per A4 sheet for black and white copying, 30p per A4 sheet for colour copying.
- Postage is charged at actual rate for first class mail.
- Staff time is calculated at actual cost per staff member hourly salary rate to a maximum of £15 per person per hour.

The first £100 worth of information will be provided to you without charge. Where information costs between £100 and £600 to provide, you will be asked to pay 10% of the cost. That is, if you were to ask for information that cost us £600 to provide, you would be asked to pay £50, calculated on the basis of a waiver for the first £100 and 10% of the remaining £500.

Where it would cost more than £600 to provide the information to you, however, we will ask you to pay the full cost of providing the information, with no waiver for any portion of the cost.

## **Requests For Your Own Personal Data**

You are entitled to request your personal data from The Assessor for Renfrewshire Valuation Joint Board who reserves the right to charge £10 for requests for an individual's own personal data.