

Scottish Courts and Tribunals Service



The Sovereign Nation of Shetland

By email:
stuart@forvik.com

Scottish Courts and Tribunals Service HQ
Saughton House
Broomhouse Drive
Edinburgh
EH11 3XD
DX 545309 Edinburgh 39

Our Ref: FOI 2025-066

Date: 06 March 2025

Dear The Sovereign Nation of Shetland,

Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 (FOISA)

Thank you for your request for information, received by the Scottish Land Court and the Lands Tribunal for Scotland mailbox LTS_Mailbox@scotcourtribunals.gov.uk on 17 February 2025 and further email in similar terms directed to the Scottish Courts and Tribunal Service (SCTS) freedom of information officer mailbox foi@scotcourts.gov.uk, received on 18 February 2025.

Whilst I note you directed your request to the Scottish Land Court & Lands Tribunal for Scotland and SCTS, please note that the Scottish Land Court & Lands Tribunal for Scotland is administratively supported by the Scottish Courts and Tribunals Service (SCTS).

The terms of your requests received on 17 & 18 February 2025 were detailed as follows:

17 February 2025 - LTS_Mailbox@scotcourtribunals.gov.uk

Proof that Shetland is part of Scotland

Please provide specific information showing proof that Shetland is part of Scotland.

18 February 2025 - FOI@scotcourts.gov.uk

Proof of your authority to operate in Shetland.

In the absence of proof that Shetland is part of Scotland, please provide information showing proof of your authority to operate in Shetland.

We understand that a request for this information was previously submitted to SCTS on 04 February 2025 by The Sovereign Nation of Shetland and response issued on 14 February 2025, under FOI reference FOI 2025-047. The terms of the response were as follows:

SCTS is an independent body corporate established by the Judiciary and Courts (Scotland) Act 2008. Its function is to provide administrative support to Scottish courts and tribunals and to the judiciary of courts including High Court of Justiciary, Court of Session, sheriff courts and justice of the peace court, and to the Office of the Public Guardian and Accountant of Court.

The function of the SCTS is to provide administrative support to the Scottish courts and tribunals and to the judiciary of courts, including the High Court of Justiciary, Court of Session, sheriff courts and justice of the peace courts, and to the Office of the Public Guardian and Accountant of Court.

SCTS does not hold the information you have requested.

That said, as part of our duty to assist, I can advise Shetland falls within the Sheriffdom of Grampian, Highland and Islands. Kirkwall Sheriff Court is a Scottish Court. Please refer to [The Sheriff Court Districts \(Alteration of Boundaries\) Order 1996](#) legislation which came into force on 1 April 1996.

A Sheriffdom and court location map is published on our website – <https://www.scotcourts.gov.uk/courts-and-tribunals/sheriff-and-justice-of-the-peace-courts/sheriff-courts/>

As the terms of your requests of 17 and 18 February 2025 are considered to be in the same terms as that previously considered and responded to by SCTS, and the information covered by the request has not changed in the intervening period, I must advise we refuse your request in terms of Section 14(2) of FOISA (repeated request).

In case it may be of further assistance, you can access the previous response provided by SCTS which is accessible via the [What do they know](#) website platform which can be accessed via the below link: [Response – FOI 2025-047](#)

I hope the information provided is of some assistance. However should you feel dissatisfied with this response or the manner in which your request has been handled, FOISA provides for a review process to be conducted. Should you wish to take advantage of this process you may apply in writing for a review. Your request should provide details of why you wish a review to be carried out and should be made within 40 working days of receipt of this letter to:-

The Freedom of Information Officer
Scottish Courts and Tribunals Service
Saughton House
Broomhouse Drive
Edinburgh
EH11 3XD
foi@scotcourts.gov.uk

Following that review should you still feel dissatisfied, you have the right to lodge an appeal with the Scottish Information Commissioner either online:
<http://www.itspublicknowledge.info/YourRights/Unhappywiththeresponse/AppealingtoCommissioner.aspx>

or at the following address:-

Office of the Scottish Information Commissioner
Kinburn Castle
Doubledykes Road
St. Andrews
FIFE

Yours sincerely

Tara McNamara

Information & Correspondence Manager