

Request:	Football Participation
Ref:	ELIR00421
Received:	23.10.24
Responded:	24.10.24

Request

I recently wrote to the Scottish FA regarding the publication of participation figures published on their social media platforms.

A section of their reply is extracted below (in red):

We note that a significant number of participants, 31,709 are attributed to community clubs, partners and stakeholders, almost 20% of the headline figure of 161,421. Can you expand on this group and provide examples of the clubs or organisations referred to i.e. name the clubs or teams.

The development of the sport has resulted in more players wanting less formal access to the game. Not everyone wants to play for a team. We have looked at different ways to ensure we can register these players for reporting, monitoring and evaluation purposes.

Stakeholders such as **Local Authorities, Leisure Trusts** and Club Charities deliver a wide range of weekly football activity (which we support) which players participate in. As those stakeholders are not affiliated to an ANA, we register those players directly.

Can Edinburgh Leisure please advise of the number of football players (grassroots i.e. not paid/professionals) they have registered directly with the Scottish FA as suggested above in the calendar year 2024?

Response

Legislation:	Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002
Category of response:	Information Not Held
Exemptions applied:	FOISA Section 17

The request has been processed under the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002. Unfortunately, we are unable to provide the information requested as it is not held by Edinburgh Leisure.

Refusal Notice

Section 16 of FOI(S)A requires us to complete a refusal notice when we are not providing information requested. The details we are required to include in this refusal notice are set out below.

Information which is the subject of the request and is not held

Exemption(s)	Section 17 - Information Not Held
Why exemption(s) applies	Unfortunately, we are unable to provide you with the information requested in the question(s) below as it is not held by Edinburgh Leisure. This is because Edinburgh Leisure do not have any players registered directly with the Scottish FA, the teams register their players with their respective leagues and the leagues register players with the SFA.
Public Interest (where relevant)	As the information requested is not held by Edinburgh Leisure, we are unable to conduct a public interest test.

Please note that this letter constitutes a formal refusal notice under Section 17 (1) of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002.

This refusal notice is provided in accordance with section 16 of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 (FOI(S)A).

Edinburgh Leisure Head Office
 Meadowbank Sports Centre
 London Road
 Edinburgh
 EH7 6AE
 Email: foi@edinburghleisure.co.uk
Edinburghleisure.co.uk

Registered Scottish Charity No: SC027450
 VAT Reg: 703 762 349 Company Reg: 179259



Edinburgh Leisure
 The Biggest Club in Town