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http://www.qltr.gov.uk

Your ref:

Our ref: GE/13/12

Date: 1/02/2013

Dear

## FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST UNCLAIMED ESTATES

Thank you for your request dated 28 January under the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 (FOISA) for the following which relate to the QLTR list 'estates reported to QLTR but determined NOT to be UH estates':

When a 'blood relation is found to exist' please advise:-

- 1. What is the average timescale after the estate appears on the list (i.e the estate is advertised), that the QLTR have been advised that a relation exists?
- 2. What percentage of this advice is given by relatives themselves, AND what percentage is derived from other sources (e.g HeirHunters) on behalf of relatives?

## General

- 3. Since advertising policy changed from quarterly to daily, have procedural changes occurred that we should be aware of, in particular, but not exclusively to, the treatment of higher value estates?
- 4. How many estates has QLTR administered (becoming available for claim) where estate value has been in excess of £20,000 since advertising policy changed?

For ease of reference I will reply in that number order:



- 1. The average timescale after the estate appears on the list (i.e the estate is advertised) that the QLTR have been advised that a relation exists is 23 days.
- 2. 42% of the advice derives from relatives and 58% derives from other sources.
- 3. Since our advertising policy changes, no procedural changes have occurred that you should be aware of.
- 4. The QLTR has not administered any estates (becoming available for claim) where value has been in excess of £20,000, since our advertising policy changed.

If you are dissatisfied with the way in which your request has been handled, you do have the right to ask us to review it. Your request should be made within 40 working days of receipt of this letter and we will reply within 20 working days of receipt. If you require a review of our decision to be carried out, please write to The QLTR, Unit 5, 14a South St Andrew Street, Edinburgh EH2 2AZ, or for requests sent by e-mail to cogltr@copfs.gsi.gov.uk.

The review will be undertaken by staff not involved in the original decision making process.

If our decision is unchanged following a review and you remain dissatisfied with this, there is a right of appeal to the Scottish Information Commissioner under section 47(1) of FOISA.

Should you subsequently wish to appeal against the Commissioner's decision on such an appeal, there is a right of appeal to the Court of Session on a point of law only."

