

17-011478-01 SPOM 32 topline data**Technical details:**

- Results are based on a survey of 1,029 respondents (adults aged 16+) conducted by telephone
- Fieldwork dates: 24 February – 6 March 2017
- Data are weighted by: age, sex, education qualification and working status using census data; tenure using SHS data; and public-private sector employment using Scottish Government Quarterly Public Sector Employment series data
- Where results do not sum to 100%, this may be due to computer rounding, multiple responses, or the exclusion of “don’t know” categories
- Results are based on all respondents 1,029 unless otherwise stated.

Have you ever heard of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act?				
<i>Base: All</i>	2017	2015	2013	
	%	%	%	
Yes, definitely	64	71	60	
Yes, I think so	21	14	18	
No, I don't think so	6	3	9	
No, definitely not	8	10	11	
Don't know / unsure	*	1	2	

The public bodies covered by freedom of information include the Scottish Government, the Scottish Parliament, local authorities, the NHS and Scotland's Police and Fire Services. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?							
	Strongly agree	Tend to agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Tend to disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know	
<i>Base: All</i>	%	%	%	%	%	%	
It is important for the public to be able to access information held by public authorities	70	24	3	2	1	1	
Freedom of information is important in holding public bodies to account for their spending decisions	73	20	3	1	2	1	
Freedom of information is a waste of public money.	3	7	7	23	58	2	

	If you wanted to find out information about a public body, for example on a decision they've taken or a service they provide, how would you prefer to access that information? Would you prefer to...
	<i>Base: All</i>
	%
	Find the information on the organisation's website
	56
	Send a letter or an email to the organisation
	19
	Phone the organisation
	10
	Visit the organisation in person
	6
	Find the information somewhere else
	6
	I would not want to find out information
	1
	Don't know
	2

	To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements about information that public bodies make available for the public to see?						
		Strongly agree	Tend to agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Tend to disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know
	<i>Base: All</i>	%	%	%	%	%	%
	Public bodies should publish information about how they spend their money	74	20	2	3	1	-
	Public bodies should publish the reasons for the decisions they make	60	30	4	4	1	1
	Public bodies should publish information on how they deliver their services and functions	64	30	3	2	*	2
	Public bodies should publish information on their contracts with other organisations	51	33	8	5	*	2
	Public bodies should publish data and statistics about their performance	60	33	4	3	1	1

Which of the following statements comes closest to your view?	
<i>Base: All</i>	%
I would be <i>more</i> likely to trust an authority that publishes a lot of information about its work	77
I would be <i>less</i> likely to trust an authority that publishes a lot of information about its work	4
It would make no difference to me	17
Don't know	2