



The Centre for Freedom of Information is a joint venture between the School of Law, University of Dundee and the Scottish Information Commissioner.

**Autumn 2011 PROGRAMME
FREEDOM OF INFORMATION:
FOI APPEAL ROUTES**

WEDNESDAY 19 OCTOBER 2011

Lecture Theatre 1, Dalhousie Building, Smalls Wynd, University of Dundee DDI 4HN

- 13:00** **Lunch – served in the Upper Gallery**
- 14:00** Welcome and general introduction from Chair
Kevin Dunion, Scottish Information Commissioner
- 14:05** The FOI Appeal Process in England and Wales
Professor John Angel, Principal Judge of the First-tier Tribunal (Information Rights)
- 14:35** Reflections on the Scottish model
Christine O'Neill, Partner, Brodies LLP
- 15:05** FOI Appeals: the requester's perspective
Rob Edwards, environment correspondent, Sunday Herald
- 15:35** Panel discussion
The speakers will be joined by **Steve Wood, Head of Policy Delivery, Information Commissioner's Office**, and **Professor Alan Page, Dean of the School of Law, University of Dundee**, to take questions and discuss the issues raised.
- 15:55** Round up and Close
Kevin Dunion, Scottish Information Commissioner

About the Co-Directors:

Kevin Dunion, Scottish Information Commissioner

Kevin Dunion is Scotland's first Information Commissioner. Since the Freedom of Information Act came into effect in Scotland in 2005, he has published over 1,000 formal decisions. The Scottish experience is proving of interest to other jurisdictions and in particular he has been directly involved in projects in Jamaica (with the Carter Center) and Malawi (with the British Council and Scottish Government). In 2008, Kevin was elected Rector of the University of St Andrews for 3 years. Prior to becoming Commissioner, Kevin Dunion was head of Friends of the Earth. He is the author of a number of books and articles, and is currently writing a forthcoming publication on enforcing freedom of information rights.

Professor Alan Page, Dean, School of Law, University of Dundee

Alan Page was appointed Professor of Public Law in Dundee School of Law in 1985. He was appointed Dean in 2006, having been Head of the Department of Law, Dean of the Faculty of Law and Head of the Department of Public Law. He has acted as a specialist adviser: to the Scottish Parliament's Subordinate Legislation Committee (2004-06), the House of Lords and House of Commons Joint Committee on Financial Services and Markets (1998-99), and the House of Commons Select Committee on Scottish Affairs (1993-97); and to the EU, the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe, and the UN. He is an Honorary Fellow of the Society of Advanced Legal Studies and an Honorary Senior Research Fellow at the Constitution Unit, University College London.

About the speakers:

Professor John Angel, Principal Judge of the First-tier Tribunal (Information Rights)

John Angel was the first President of the Information Tribunal. He set up the General Regulatory Chamber in the First-tier Tribunal (FTT) and was its acting President during that time. He is currently a deputy judge in the Administrative Appeals Chamber of the Upper Tribunal and Principal Judge of the Information Rights jurisdiction in the FTT.

John is a retired solicitor who was formerly the Head of Online Legal Services at the global law firm Clifford Chance and before that he practised technology law at Theodore Goddard. He has written, contributed to and edited a number of books and papers on subjects such as computer, telecommunications and electronic business law and has previously held a number of (non legal) management positions in the IT industry. John is also a visiting Professor at the Institute of Computer & Communication Law, Centre for Commercial Law Studies, Queen Mary, University of London.

Christine O'Neill, Partner, Brodies LLP

Christine O'Neill is a partner in the public law and regulatory team at Brodies LLP. She advises a range of clients on information law issues including FOI, data protection and data security and acted for the Scottish Information Commissioner in a number of appeals to the Court of Session. A solicitor advocate, she appears regularly in courts and in public inquiries for public authorities and commercial clients.

Rob Edwards, environment correspondent, Sunday Herald

Rob Edwards has been a freelance journalist specialising in environmental issues for more than 30 years. He has written for New Statesman, The Observer, The Mail, The Sunday Times, Scotland on Sunday, The Scotsman, The Glasgow Herald, the Edinburgh Evening News and many others. Since 1999 he has been the environment editor of the Sunday Herald and a correspondent for New Scientist and The Guardian. He has also produced TV programmes, given many talks and been often interviewed on radio and television. He has co-authored three books about nuclear power, and won a series of journalist awards. Since 2005, he has made 242 requests under freedom of information legislation in Scotland and the UK. He lives in Edinburgh, and likes muckraking.

About the Centre for Freedom of Information

The Centre for Freedom of Information was established in February 2009 as a joint venture between Dundee Law School, University of Dundee and the Scottish Information Commissioner. Our aim is to provide conceptual space to reflect on and discuss current FOI issues and practice. We will build the Centre to become a central point for the development of research into FOI issues, and provide opportunities to transfer knowledge and gain further learning, with access to expertise from specialists in constitutional and civil law, FOI practitioners and the Commissioner's office.



The Centre for Freedom of Information is a joint venture between the School of Law, University of Dundee and the Scottish Information Commissioner.

How to register to attend this seminar

**FOI APPEAL ROUTES
2PM – 4PM (preceded by lunch at 1pm)
WEDNESDAY 19 OCTOBER 2011**

**Lecture Theatre 1, Dalhousie Building, Smalls Wynd, University of Dundee
DD1 4HN**

Name
Organisation
Address
(for invoice if applicable)
Tel
Email
Purchase Order Number
(if known)

All cheques made payable to University of Dundee

- I will attend the seminar only – I enclose a cheque for £17.00
- I will attend the seminar and lunch - I enclose a cheque for £25.00
- I will attend the seminar only - I enclose a Purchase Order No
- I will attend the seminar and lunch – I enclose a Purchase Order No
- I will attend the seminar and lunch and enclose a cheque for £10.00*

**special reduced rate for unwaged, students and voluntary organisations*
[Click Here](#) to book on line via our University E-Store electronic payment system

Terms of booking

Please note, by returning this form and reserving a place you are making a firm booking. Bookings must be made on the enclosed form. No refund can be made.

Completed forms to be returned to:
Ms D Hendry, School of Law, Dundee University, Dundee, DD1 4HN or via email to:
centrefoi@dundee.ac.uk by Wednesday 12 October 2011 (please note that early booking is advised).