

Scottish Government Building, 1F North, Victoria Quay, Edinburgh, EH6 6QQ

## PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL

Our ref: FOI.2025.8

By Email Date: 14/02/2025

Dear ,

I refer to your e-mail of 12<sup>th</sup> February 2025 in which you requested the following information:

Would it be possible to obtain a copy of the UH policy documents used by the KLTR office or the NUHU? I can see the documents for the BV policies but I am struggling to find documents on your website relating to UH or the NUHU.

In particular, could you confirm how payments are made to claimants of UH estates? I am just trying to figure out whether the Declarator of *Ultimus Haeres*, Deed of Gift, or the Register of the Quarter Seal etc are still used when paying out a UH estate. I am a bit unclear what the process are for paying out UH estates to claimants, and whether any policy or procedural documents exist for that.

In a similar vein, could I also ask how long the KLTR allows claimants to come forward to claim UH estate assets for (in years) before retaining these permanently? I suspect it is related to negative prescription but I could not see anything about this in your publication scheme either, despite some references to this element in academic texts.

This request will be managed by The King's and Lord Treasurer's Rembrancer (KLTR) under the Freedom of Information Act (Scotland) 2002 (FOISA).

I am able to provide you with the following information in relation to your queries.

This information is available freely on our website. These link to our published policies that govern our work around Ultimes Haeres. I have linked the section relevant to your requests.

Would it be possible to obtain a copy of the UH policy documents used by the KLTR office or the NUHU? I can see the documents for the BV policies but I am struggling to find documents on your website relating to UH or the NUHU.

Link to Ultimus Haeres policies | KLTR

In particular, could you confirm how payments are made to claimants of UH estates? I am just trying to figure out whether the Declarator of Ultimus Haeres, Deed of Gift, or the Register of the Quarter Seal etc are still used when paying out a UH estate. I am a bit unclear what the process are for paying out UH estates to claimants, and whether any policy or procedural documents exist for that.

## Link to Policy UH7. Payment of UH Estates | KLTR

In a similar vein, could I also ask how long the KLTR allows claimants to come forward to claim UH estate assets for (in years) before retaining these permanently? I suspect it is related to negative prescription but I could not see anything about this in your publication scheme either, despite some references to this element in academic texts.

## Link to Policy UH6. Claiming UH estates time limit | KLTR

Technically this information is being provided as a rejection of this request under the Section 21 Exemption of the Freedom of Information Act. Section 21 is the Exemption that relates to information that is already reasonably accessible.

If you are dissatisfied with the KLTR response to your FOI request, you have the right to ask us to review it. Your review request should be made within 40 working days of receipt of this letter; please e-mail <a href="mailto:enquiries@kltr.gov.uk">enquiries@kltr.gov.uk</a> and we will reply within 20 working days of receipt.

The review will be undertaken by a member of the KLTR FOI team who was not involved in the original consideration of your request.

Under section 47(1) of FOISA if the KLTR position is unchanged following a review you have the right to appeal to the Scottish Information Commissioner within six months of receiving the review.

Yours sincerely

Policy, Communications and Stakeholder Relations KLTR