A LEADING Nationalist MP who campaigned for a crackdown on nuisance phone calls is linked to a company which has been investigated for its cold-calling practices.

Ian Blackford, the SNP’s pensions spokesman, was last night accused of hypocrisy after the Scottish Daily Mail learned of the high-level probe by the Information Commissioner’s Office (ICO).

Mr Blackford, who ousted former Lib Dem leader Charles Kennedy in an ugly General Election battle, is chairman of the Golden Charter Trust, earning him the equivalent of £777 an hour for his lucrative second job.

The trust was set up to hold, invest and administer the money received by Golden Charter Ltd, a separate entity which is one of the country’s largest independent providers of funeral plans.

Vulnerable pensioners, including an elderly woman who was battling cancer for the third time, have complained about being targeted by callers from Golden Charter Ltd trying to sell funeral plans.

The ICO is now ‘monitoring’ the firm until the end of January in the wake of complaints, and previously threatened enforcement action if improvements are not made.

By Alan Roden
Scottish Political Editor

Anger: Emily Maitlis ‘was told to go on show’

My fury over Strictly jibe

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