



HOUSE OF COMMONS

I Peroll (via email)
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12 August 2009

Internal Review - case Ref: F09-380

Thank you for your request for an internal review of your Freedom of Information request F09-380.

The Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) entitles individuals to request access to information that is held by a public authority. In response to such requests, public authorities are obliged to confirm or deny whether that information is held (section 1, FOIA). If the information is held, the public authority must disclose that information, unless exemptions apply (section 2, FOIA). If the information is not held, the public authority is under no obligation to locate the information from other sources.

The House of Commons is a public authority for the purposes of the Act. However, this is only in respect of information that it holds, not in respect to information that Members of Parliament hold individually. The information which you seek is not held by the House of Commons. We do not know whether it is held by Members of Parliament individually.

As suggested in the original response which you received, you may wish to contact individual Members directly to ask for the information you seek. However, Members of Parliament are not public authorities for the purposes of the Freedom of Information Act. That means that they are not obliged to respond to requests made under the Act.

Our response to your request was that the information you sought is not held by the House of Commons. Having reviewed your request, I uphold the original response to your request.

If you remain dissatisfied with our response, you may appeal to the Information Commissioner at Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF.

A J Walker
Director General of Resources

