

Michael Bimmler

27 May 2011

(by email only request-17693-70ab8b9d@whatdotheyknow.com)

IC ref: FS50295029

Dear Mr Bimmler,

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000

I am writing further to the Information Commissioner's Decision Notice of 23 February 2011, ref. FS50295029. Your request was for

" I request access to all records held by the Cabinet Office or the Prime Minister's Office in connection with the negotiations of a Prisoner Transfer Agreement with the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya.

If the amount of documents is too large to evaluate under the cost threshold provision of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, I ask you to restrict this query only to documents created in December 2007.."

The Commissioner's Decision Notice requires the Cabinet Office to provide you with some of the information that we had previously withheld.

This information is enclosed with this letter.

RICHARD WALKER

From: [REDACTED]@walesoffice.gsi.gov.uk
Sent: 21 December 2007 11:04
To: [REDACTED]@cabinet-office.x.gsi.gov.uk
Cc: [REDACTED]@cabinet-office.x.gsi.gov.uk
Subject: 21 December 2007: Libya PTA

My SoS will be pleased to see there's been some progress. Many thanks to you, Simon and everyone else involved.

Merry Christmas to all – I hope you managed to get a break.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Secretary of State for Wales

From: [REDACTED]@walesoffice.gsi.gov.uk
Sent: 20 December 2007 18:01
To: [REDACTED]@cabinet-office.x.gsi.gov.uk
Subject: GD(UK)

[REDACTED]

Thanks for the update yesterday. Much appreciated. Are there any further developments before we break for Xmas (or before I do anyway!)?

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Secretary of State for Wales

From: [REDACTED]@scotland.gsi.gov.uk
Sent: 12 December 2007 09:51
To: [REDACTED]@cabinet-office.x.gsi.gov.uk
Cc: George.Burgess@scotland.gsi.gov.uk;
[REDACTED]@scotland.gsi.gov.uk;
[REDACTED]@scotland.gsi.gov.uk
Subject: 12 December 2007: Scottish Executive: Judicial Agreement talks: Libya

[REDACTED]

Thanks for getting in touch.

We have on this occasion concluded ourselves that we do not wish to be in attendance for this round of negotiations with Libya, but would reserve our position for future occasions.



Although you are correct of course that foreign affairs is generally a matter which is reserved to the UK Government, your note below does not take into account however that the devolution settlement holds the Scottish executive responsible for implementing international agreements where they relate to matters which have been devolved to the Scotland. The negotiations with Libya include many devolved areas, relating as they do to matters of Scots law. The key point about this is that we need to be more involved than simply being "kept informed". If we are required to implement the results of an agreement with a foreign country, then the results of those negotiations need to be workable and acceptable to Scottish interests. And, simply as a matter of information, since devolution, Scottish Government officials and Ministers have been and currently are closely involved, up front, along with UK Government colleagues in a variety of international negotiations and events, such as EU working groups. Indeed, the Scottish Solicitor General only last week attended the JHA Council in Brussels along with UK Govt Ministers as part of the UK team and the lord Advocate recently represented the UK at a Council of Europe meeting.

In any event, we would be very grateful for a detailed read out from the meeting of 11 December and early notice of the projected dates for the future meetings along with an indication of the expected agenda.

Regards

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

International and Human Rights team
Civil and international Justice Directorate
DG Justice and Communities
EDINBURGH

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk
Sent: 06 December 2007 15:34
To: [REDACTED]@cabinet-office.x.gsi.gov.uk
Cc: [REDACTED]@cabinet-office.x.gsi.gov.uk; [REDACTED]@cabinet-office.x.gsi.gov.uk
Subject: 6 December 2008: REST; Scottish Executive: Judicial Agreement negotiations

[REDACTED]

Thank you for this.

I would be grateful if you (or someone else from CO) would inform the SE of this. The person to be informed is:

[REDACTED]

EU, International and Human Rights team
Civil Justice, Law Reform and international Directorate



Scottish Executive Justice Department
EDINBURGH

[REDACTED]@scotland.gsi.gov.uk

Thanks

[REDACTED]

From: Vincent.Fean@fco.x.gsi.gov.uk
Sent: 05 December 2007 10:21
To: [REDACTED]@cabinet-office.x.gsi.gov.uk ;
[REDACTED]@fco.x.gsi.gov.uk
Cc: [REDACTED]@fco.x.gsi.gov.uk; [REDACTED]@fco.x.gsi.gov.uk;
[REDACTED]@fco.x.gsi.gov.uk
Subject: 5 December 2007: REST; Libya, BP and the PTA

[REDACTED]

I am very grateful to you and to Simon.

Vincent

From: [REDACTED]@cabinet-office.x.gsi.gov.uk
Sent: 05 December 2007 12:15
To: Vincent.Fean@fco.x.gsi.gov.uk; [REDACTED]@fco.x.gsi.gov.uk
Cc: [REDACTED]@fco.x.gsi.gov.uk; [REDACTED]@fco.x.gsi.gov.uk;
[REDACTED]@fco.x.gsi.gov.uk ; [REDACTED]@fco.x.gsi.gov.uk
Subject: RE: REST; Libya, BP and the PTA

Vincent,

Thank you for this – I have been speaking regularly to MoJ's office to push this (including yesterday) and will continue to do so today; your points below are helpful.

[REDACTED]

Middle East, North Africa and North America
Defence and Overseas Secretariat
Cabinet Office

[REDACTED]

