



17 April 2009

Fred Robinson Esq.
request-4175-e6cb7bdb@whatdotheyknow.com
(by email only)

Dear Mr Robinson,

REVIEW OF REQUEST UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000

Thank you for your email of 11 January about your request for information concerning the handling of correspondence addressed to the Prime Minister from members of the public.

I am satisfied that you have been provided with the information that is held on handling correspondence.

We do not hold any other recorded information for the purposes of the Freedom of Information Act that falls within your request. The Freedom of Information Act does not require public authorities to create new information for the purpose of responding to a request.

Outside our obligations under the Freedom of Information Act it might be helpful if I explain that because of the volume of correspondence that the Prime Minister receives – many thousands of letters, faxes and emails every week - it is not possible for him to read and respond personally to all the correspondence sent to him. Correspondence is generally dealt with by an administrative member of staff in the No 10 Direct Communications Unit. Letters from members of the public will normally receive an official reply either from a member of staff within Downing Street or the appropriate public authority.

If you are unhappy with the handling of your request for information you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF.

Yours sincerely,

P.P. SUE GRAY

Sue Gray

