



# Home Office

Information Access Team

Shared Services Directorate

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Mr David Hansen  
[request-4699-4fd94e5d@whatdotheyknow.com](mailto:request-4699-4fd94e5d@whatdotheyknow.com)

Our Ref: 11123  
Date: 6 March 2009

Dear Mr Hansen,

I am writing further to my email of 9 February 2009, regarding your request for an internal review of the same date.

I have now completed a full review of the handling of your request. This matter has been treated on its own merits and all papers originally considered have been re-considered as part of the internal review.

The original response, which you received in plain text format on 6 February 2009, stated that the Home Office did not hold any information relevant to your request. Having now completed my review I am satisfied that this was correct. The Internet Watch Foundation (IWF) is a self regulated independent charity that does not have any formal links to the Home Office. Given that the Home Office does not have any formal links with the IWF we also hold no information relating to any action that may, or may not, be taking place in relation to the posting of any images online. The response provided by the original caseworker contained a substantial amount of information taken from the IWF's website to further elucidate the status of the body. I am satisfied that this information satisfies our responsibility to advise and assist under the terms of section 16 of the Act.

In subsequent correspondence with me you also raised questions regarding the Home Office's policy to provide responses to internal reviews within 40 working days, rather than the 20 working days specified in the guidance produced by the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO). The 20 working day target set by the ICO is not a statutory requirement. Nevertheless, the Home Office aims to respond to all requests for internal reviews as quickly as possible, and certainly within 40 working days. In some cases it may not be possible to respond within this time frame, in such circumstances caseworkers are asked to make every attempt to ensure that applicants are kept informed of the progress of their review.

While I realise that this response may be a disappointment to you, I would like to assure you that that this review has been both independent and thorough and that the Home Office does not hold any information relevant to your request.

Should you remain dissatisfied after this internal review you have the right of complaint to the Information Commissioner, as established by section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act. You can write to him at:

Wycliffe House  
Water Lane  
Wilmslow  
Cheshire SK9 5AF

A copy of this response will also be provided in plain text format.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John Bragaglia', written over a horizontal line.

John Bragaglia  
Information Access Consultant