

Admiralty Arch
The Mall
London
SW1A 2WH

Telephone 020 7276 2219

Fax 020 7276 6337

Email Daniel.Hunt@cabinet-office.x.gsi.gov.uk

Web www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk

Gavin Whenman

Our Reference: FOI260879

Email: request-4322-ccb4f093@whatdotheyknow.com

Dear Mr Whenman,

13th January 2009

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000

Thank you for your email of 12th December 2008 requesting any documents from the period 1997-2008 relating to HM Government's plans should the monarch withhold his or her assent to a government bill or any other parliamentary bill.

I must inform you that, by virtue of regulations made by the Lord Chancellor, the Cabinet Office is entitled to treat several requests which relate to the same or similar information as a single request. As your requests all relate to the same subject over a period of 11 years, I have treated them as one request. Please find more information on aggregation of requests made under Freedom of Information legislation at this website:
www.justice.gov.uk/guidance/foi-procedural-fees.htm#aggregation

We estimate that the cost of complying with your request would exceed the appropriate limit of £600. The appropriate limit has been specified in regulations and for central Government it is set at £600. This represents the estimated cost of one person spending 3½ working days in determining whether the Department holds the information, and locating, retrieving and extracting the information. Under section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act the Department is not obliged to comply with your request and we will not be processing your request further.

If you were to make a new request for a narrower category of information, it may be that we could comply with that request within the appropriate limit, although I cannot guarantee that this will be the case. For example, you could refine your request to cover a single year within which plans referring to the monarch withholding their assent may have been made.

If you have any queries about this letter, please contact me. Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.



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If you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request or wish to request an internal review, you should write to:

Sue Gray
Director
Cabinet Office
70 Whitehall
London
SW1A 2AS

Email: foiteam@cabinet-office.x.gsi.gov.uk

You should note that the Cabinet Office will not normally accept an application for internal review if it is received more than two months after the date that the reply was issued.

If you are not content with the outcome of your internal review, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. Generally, the Commissioner cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the complaints procedure provided by Cabinet Office. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

The Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF

Yours Sincerely



Daniel Hunt
Openness Advisor
Knowledge and Information Management Unit (KIM)
Cabinet Office

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