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27 January 2009

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Jim Dunn FOI Case Officer The Information Commissioner's Office Wycliffe House Water Lane Wilmslow Cheshire SK9 5AF

By e-mail: mail@ico.gsi.gov.uk

Dear Mr Dunn,

Freedom of Information Request 0485-08: Alex Skene **Information Commissioner's Case Reference FS50226727**

Further to your telephone conversation with my colleague Susan Hewer on 23 January, I am writing in response to your letter of 19 December 2008 to Mr B Dickson, about Mr Skene's FOI request.

In your letter of 19 December, you recommended that we issue our Internal Review (IR) decision to Mr Skene within 20 working days of your letter. That timeline gave us a deadline of 27 January for our response.

The complexity of the issues involved in Mr Skene's original FOI request, and the Internal Review of the handling of the case, is considerable and we have consulted extensively on it, including Ministers. We are now working towards issuing our response to Mr Skene's IR by 10 February, and we will ensure that a copy of the correspondence is sent to you in parallel.

Thank you for your acknowledgement of this proposal, which you gave during your conversation with Miss Hewer on 23 January.



Yours sincerely,

Andy Partridge

Andrew Partridge Open Government Liaison Officer Protocol Directorate

Cc: Mr Alex Skene (by e-mail)