



Disclosure Team
Ministry of Justice
102 Petty France
London
SW1H 9AJ

Ms Emmy Butlin
request-614039-f8277bac@whatdotheyknow.com

data.access@justice.gov.uk

18 November 2019

Dear Ms Butlin,

Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Request – 191022006

Thank you for your request received on the 22 October 2019, in which you asked for the following information from the Ministry of Justice (MoJ):

“I would be very grateful if you provided me with the number of arrest warrants, issued against Julian Assange Date of Birth 03/07/1971 by Magistrates in England in 2017, the date they were issued, the issuing authority, the reason for the issuance and the Magistrate who signed them.

Additionally, please confirm if there is any correspondence about arrest warrants against Julian Assange during 2017.”

Your request is being handled under the FOIA.

Section 12(1) of the FOIA means public authorities are not obliged to comply with a request for information if it estimates the cost of complying would exceed the appropriate limit. The appropriate limit for central government is set at £600. This represents the estimated cost of one person spending 3.5 working days determining whether the department holds the information, and locating, retrieving and extracting the information.

We believe that the cost to search, locate and extract the information would exceed the appropriate limit. Consequently, we are not obliged to comply with your request.

Although we cannot answer your request at the moment, we may be able to answer a refined request within the cost limit. You may wish to consider, for example, requesting the information for smaller timeframe, or from a specific Magistrates' court. Please be aware that we cannot guarantee at this stage that a refined request will fall within the FOIA cost limit, or that other exemptions will not apply.

Outside of the FOIA, for your advice and assistance, please note that, if you make a revised request that does not engage the Section 12 cost limit, it may be exempt from disclosure under section 32 of the FOIA. This is because we believe the information you have requested is likely to be held solely within court records. The FOIA is not a means to obtain indirect access to court records. Section 32 is in place to preserve the courts control over court records. This is because the greater public interest lies in the preservation of the courts' own procedures for considering the disclosure of information.

Appeal Rights

If you are not satisfied with this response you have the right to request an internal review by responding in writing to one of the addresses below within two months of the date of this response.

data.access@justice.gov.uk

Disclosure Team, MoJ, 10.25, 102 Petty France, London, SW1H 9AJ

You do have the right to ask the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) to investigate any aspect of your complaint. However, please note that the ICO is likely to expect internal complaints procedures to have been exhausted before beginning their investigation.

Yours sincerely

Knowledge and Information Liaison Officer
London and South East Regional Support Unit | HM Courts & Tribunals Service