



Department for Business Innovation & Skills

Markets and Local Growth
Department for Business, Innovation &
Skills
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www.gov.uk

BIS reference: 13/0511
Date: 17 May 2013

Dear Mr Coomber

RE: Freedom of Information Request

I am writing regarding your email of 18 April where you made the following request for information:

I am aware that the former DTI (now subsumed into / replaced by BIS) undertook The Quinquennial Review (QR) of the Insolvency Service ("The Service") from 16 May 2000 onwards.

E&Y's Alan Bloom (now Global Head of Business Restructuring at E&Y) was appointed as an Advisor to this initiative, and I believe he made both oral and written contributions to the Project.

I wish to receive:

- 1) Copies of any document / written submission produced by Alan Bloom for this Review.
- 2) Minutes of any meetings at which Alan Bloom was in attendance.
- 3) Transcripts / notes of any interviews held with Alan Bloom.
- 4) A copy of the final report from this project.
- 5) A summary of exactly how the project / report influenced Insolvency Related Legislation
- 6) A summary (names, dates, purposes of meeting / involvement) of any other involvement that Alan Bloom has subsequently had with any Staff at the DTI, either in its prior form, or in any of its later forms, inc. as BIS.

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 ('the Act'), you have the right to:

- know whether we hold the information you require
- be provided with that information (subject to any exemptions under the Act which may apply).

In part (4) of your request you asked for a copy of the final report from this project. Stage 1 of the report was published and is accessible to you at the following link:

<http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/+/http://www.dti.gov.uk/inssweb/index.htm>

Stages 2 to 9 of the report have been published in the past but are not easily accessible as they appear to have been removed from The National Archives webarchive over time. With this in mind we have obtained a copy of this information and it is included here.

With regard to the remaining parts of your request, from our preliminary assessment, it is clear that we will not be able to answer your request without exceeding the cost limit of £600 provided under s12 of the Freedom of Information Act ('the Act'). This represents the estimated cost of one person spending 3.5 working days in determining whether the Department holds the information, locating, retrieving and extracting the information. The Act provides that we are not obliged to comply with requests where the estimated cost of complying would exceed this limit.

BIS holds a large number of archived paper files on the subject of the Quinquennial Review of the Insolvency Service and in order to provide you with the information you have requested would require examining every enclosure on every file to determine whether the files contain any information within scope of your request and if so to locate and extract that information. Due to the large number of files and related documents we estimate that it will take us in excess of 3.5 working days to determine appropriate material and locate, retrieve and extract the information in reference to your request. Therefore, your request will not be processed further.

You may wish to refine your request by narrowing its scope by being more specific about what information you particularly wish to obtain, including any dates or period of time relevant to the information required. You could, for example focus on information relating to a particular aspect of the review and narrow the period of your request.

For completeness we have also forwarded your request to The Insolvency Service who may hold information relevant to your request and they will reply to you separately.

Appeals procedure

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review. Internal review requests should be submitted within two months of the date of receipt of the response to your original letter and should be addressed to the Security & Information Rights Unit (FOI.Requests@bis.gsi.gov.uk).

Security & Information Rights Unit
Department for Business, Innovation & Skills
1 Victoria Street
London
SW1H 0ET

Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, 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

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