



Home Office

Corporate Services  
2 Marsham Street  
London SW1P 4DF

020 7035 4848  
(switchboard)

[www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk)

Wayne Pearsall  
[request-287141-  
81853341@whatdotheyknow.com](mailto:request-287141-81853341@whatdotheyknow.com)  
22 February 2016

Dear Mr Pearsall

**Freedom of Information request: reference 38467**

I am responding to your e-mails of 20 August 2015, in which you asked for information concerning Freedom of Information (FOI) cases handled by a named official, and to your subsequent e-mails of 19 September 2015 and 1 February 2016. Your request has been handled as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

During 2015, in a number of responses to other FOI cases and internal reviews, we informed you that the Home Office would not respond to any more of your requests which were considered to be vexatious in nature. That approach was applied to this particular case.

We have re-considered your request and we remain of the view that it is vexatious. Section 14(1) of the Act provides that the Home Office is not obliged to comply with a request for information of this nature.

We believe your request is vexatious because it meets some of the 'indicators' detailed in the Information Commissioner's guidance on vexatious requests, specifically the indicators "*Personal Grudges*" and "*unreasonable persistence*".

The guidance can be found at this link:

[http://ico.org.uk/for\\_organisations/guidance\\_index/~/\\_media/documents/library/Freedom of Information/Detailed specialist guides/dealing-with-vexatious-requests.ashx](http://ico.org.uk/for_organisations/guidance_index/~/_media/documents/library/Freedom_of_Information/Detailed_specialist_guides/dealing-with-vexatious-requests.ashx).

We have reached the decision that your request is vexatious on two occasions: when it was originally received (when the approach outlined above was decided upon) and more recently. We have therefore in effect carried out an internal review and this letter constitutes the outcome of that. If you remain dissatisfied with this response you have a right of complaint to the Information Commissioner.

Yours sincerely

Martin Riddle  
Information Rights Team

Switchboard 020 7035 4848

E-mail [FOIRequests@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:FOIRequests@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk)

## **Annex A - FOI request**

Dear Home Office,

During the period 19/9/14 to 31/1/15 Rashma Patel handled multiple FOI requests - providing responses to the requests of a number of individuals.

Can you please confirm how many requests she handled / responded to during the above period.

Can you please confirm the home office reference numbers for the requests she handled.

Can you please provide the date the communications were sent by Ms Patel.

Yours faithfully,