



**Roger Smethurst**  
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Pat Smith  
Request-89313-d41cc000@whatdotheyknow

23 November 2011

Dear Pat Smith,

**REVIEW OF REQUEST UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000**  
**Cabinet Office Internal Review Reference: IR 315383**  
**(Original Case Reference: FOI 315383)**

Thank you for your email of 20 October 2011 requesting in Internal Review of the Prime Minister's Office's handling of your request under FOIA. I have been asked to reply in the absence of Roger Smethurst.

I have carefully considered your request for an internal review. The original reply to your request explained that the speech had been made by the Prime Minister in his capacity as Leader of the Conservative Party. It failed, however, to explain that the Prime Minister's Office would not therefore hold information regarding the drafting of the speech.

The FOIA requires authorities to ascertain whether they hold recorded information in relation to a request. It does not require authorities to create new information in order to answer a request. In this context the Prime Minister's Office does not hold recorded information in answer to your specific questions about whether a particular publication had been read. I would however caution that that in itself does not mean that they have or have not been read.

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 Officer  
Wycliffe House  
Water Lane  
Wilmslow  
Cheshire  
SK9 5AF

Yours sincerely,

**DENNIS MORRIS**