



Department for Business Innovation & Skills

Research Base
Department for Business, Innovation &
Skills
1 Victoria Street
London
SW1H 0ET

Martin Eve
request-302242-4d27c6a4@whatdotheyknow.com

T +44 (0)20 7215 5000 - Public enquiries
+44 (0)20 7215 6740 - Textphone (for
those with hearing impairment)
E foi.requests@bis.gsi.gov.uk

www.gov.uk/bis

Our ref: FOI2015/25797

15 December 2015

Dear Mr Eve,

Thank you for your email of 13 November 2015 where you requested the following information:

I would like information regarding any/all meetings between BIS officials and/or the Minister for Universities and Science (Jo Johnson, MP) with representatives from Elsevier (part of RELX Group, formerly Reed Elsevier) and/or Thomson Reuters, from 5 June 2015 to date, to include:

- *dates of meetings*
- *agendas / topics for discussion*
- *names of ministers/senior officials present (as per 40(2)(a)(iii) and section 40(3)(a)(i) of FOI act)*
- *minutes / notes / records of the meetings*

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).

Section 43

The use of Section 43 is subject to a public interest test: in this context, we recognise that there is a general public interest in the disclosure of information as greater transparency makes Government more accountable.

Having considered the public interest, we consider that the public interest in disclosing this information is outweighed by the public interest considerations in favour of withholding the information. The Department's decision is therefore to withhold the information.

We appreciate that there is a public interest in understanding Government interaction with companies. However, it is also important that companies are able to share commercially

sensitive information with Government in the confidence that that information will not then enter the public domain, and damage their wider commercial interests and opportunities.

The commercial sensitivities mean that, where parts of your request have been marked with "Section 43", we consider the public interest would not be served by its release.

We have presented the information in the table below.

Date of meeting	Publisher	Agenda / topics for discussion	Minister / BIS staff present	Notes or minutes
23 October 2015	Elsevier	Open House (a tour of the building with product demonstrations)	Philip Walker	No note taken.
4 Nov 2015	Elsevier	Introductory meeting.	Minister for Universities and Science	Section 43
5 Nov 2015	Elsevier	Informal chat at the Fulbright Commission/Elsevier UK Young Researcher Awards 2015	Gareth Davies	Informal discussion, no note taken.

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 request and should be addressed to the Information Rights Unit:

Information Rights Unit
Department for Business, Innovation & Skills
1 Victoria Street
London
SW1H 0ET
Email: FOI.Requests@bis.gsi.gov.uk

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,

Research Base Briefing Hub