



Department
for Exiting the
European Union

Freedom of Information Team
Correspondence Unit
9 Downing Street
SW1A 2AG

foi@dexeu.gov.uk
www.gov.uk

Simon Ferrigno
Via: request-440078-2e216656@whatdotheyknow.com

Our ref: DEX000746
21 November 2017

Dear Simon Ferrigno,

I refer to your request, where you asked:

1. What is the Legatum Institute's role in Brexit negotiations?
 2. Who sanctioned this role within government?
 3. Which Legatum staff are involved?
 4. How many meetings have they had with ministers and the Prime Minister?
 5. What was discussed at these meetings?
 6. Have they taken part in meetings in Brussels as part of UK government delegations?
 7. How many meetings?
 8. What was discussed?
 9. What formal reports and documents have been prepared by Legatum and used by DEEU. I would also like to see copies of these document.
 10. What is their formal role and contribution to discussions about Brexit and the UK's future with the British government?
 11. What parliamentary oversight is there of this participation?
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I can confirm the information you have requested is held in part by the Department for Exiting the European Union (DExEU). For ease of reference, I have numbered your request.

1, 2, 3. I can confirm this information is not held by the Department, the Legatum Institute does not have any role in exit negotiations.

4-5. The Department does not hold information on meetings between the Legatum Institute and the Prime Minister and we cannot answer on behalf of the Prime Minister. We recommend you direct any requests for meetings between external stakeholders and the Prime Minister to 10 Downing Street.

We are not required to provide this information with respect to DExEU Ministers under section 21 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FoIA), which provides that information is exempt if it is already in the public domain.

Information on meetings between the Legatum Institute and DExEU Ministers is published in our transparency data and I have included a link to our most recent publication below:

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/651730/Ministerial>Returns_-_April_to_June_2017_-_Meetings.csv/preview

6, 7, 8. The Legatum Institute has not taken part in any meetings in Brussels as part of UK government delegations.

9. In relation to part 9 of your request, we find this information lacks the necessary specificity to bring the search criteria within the time and cost limits specified in section 12 of FoIA as the inclusion of “formal...documents” includes all emails, briefing documents and reports produced by the Legatum Institute. This would require us to search the personal and shared email and file accounts of a significant number of staff across several teams to ensure we meet the search criteria of the request. In order to bring your request within the limits of section 12, it would be advisable to narrow the scope of your request to “formal reports” submitted to Ministers and their Private Offices.

10-11. I can confirm the Legatum Institute does not have a formal role in the exit negotiations and engages with the UK government as an external stakeholder. As such are not able to answer part 11 of your request.

If you have any queries about this letter, please contact the FOI team. Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

If you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request or wish to request an internal review, you should write to foi@dexeu.gov.uk or:

Freedom of Information Team (internal review)
Department for Exiting the European Union
9 Downing Street
SW1A 2AG

You should note that DExEU will not normally accept an application for internal review if it is received more than two months after the date that the reply was issued.

If you are not content with the outcome of your internal review, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. Generally, the Commissioner cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the complaints procedure provided by DExEU. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

The Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF

Yours sincerely,

Freedom of Information Team, DExEU.