



16/09/2020

Lee Wilkinson

(By email only: request-633431-2f2e215e@whatdotheyknow.com)

Dear **Lee Wilkinson**

Cabinet Office Internal Review Reference: IR329251

(Original Case Reference: FOI329251)

REVIEW OF REQUEST UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000

Thank you for your email of 17 February 2020. You asked for an internal review of our response of 13 February 2020 to your request for information received on 13 January 2020. In your request you asked for “All correspondence and other communications (whether formal or informal, in both written and electronic form, including but not limited to messaging services including WhatsApp, Telegram, Signal, Facebook messenger, private email accounts both encrypted and unencrypted, text messaging and iMessage and the use of both official and personal mobile phones) to, from or within the present administration, since 23 July 2019 relating to the 9th September prorogation of Parliament, sent or received by the following individual: Dominic Cummings.” I apologise for the delay in responding to your internal review request.

I have carefully reviewed the handling of your request and I consider that the Cabinet Office’s decision to confirm that no information is held was correct. I have therefore concluded that I should uphold the decision given in our letter of 13 February 2020.

Your request for an internal review asks for consideration of the following points:

1. An explanation for the delayed response to my request.
2. A list of all sources/accounts which were checked in relation to my request.
3. All communications relating to my request which were sent/received by the Cabinet Office, FOI team and Dominic Cummings/his associates during the handling of this request.

4. All communications which should have been provided in the response to my request.”

1. I apologise that we were unable to respond to your request by the statutory deadline of 7 February 2020 and that you received no reply to your email of 8 February. The information search did not conclude until 13 February and a draft response was cleared and issued immediately.
2. An email search was conducted on behalf of Dominic Cummings, and No.10 conducted a wider search.
3. This “meta request” has been dealt with separately under references FOI329728 and IR2020/09095.
4. As confirmed above, no information is held. I note that in the body of your internal review request you refer to information provided for the Judicial Review. As part of this internal review we have re-checked the Judicial Review documents and there is nothing to or from Dominic Cummings. Your FOI request clearly states “...sent or received by the following individual: Dominic Cummings”. Your request does not say “and/or copied to” Dominic Cummings. Therefore any information (such as that you refer to in your internal review request) is out of scope.

If you are unhappy with the handling of your request for information 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



Eirian Walsh Atkins