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20 February 2017

Dear Ms Smith

**Freedom of Information – 42605**

Thank you for your e-mail of 23 January, in which you ask for additional information to Freedom of Information request **41371** regarding charter flights. Your query has been handled as a request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

You have asked:

*In addition, I would like to request all internal correspondence and communications between Home Office employees regarding my initial FOI request called Cash payments and reintegration of removals and deportations to Nigeria.*

We are considering your request. Although the Act carries a presumption in favour of disclosure, it provides exemptions which may be used to withhold information in specified circumstances. Some of these exemptions, referred to as 'qualified exemptions', are subject to a public interest test. This test is used to balance the public interest in disclosure against the public interest in favour of withholding the information. The Act allows us to exceed the 20 working day response target where we need to consider the public interest test fully.

Some of the information you have requested is being considered under the exemption in section 31(1) (e) of the Act, which relates to law enforcement and the operation of immigration control. This is a qualified exemption and to consider the public interest test fully we need to extend the 20 working day response period. We now aim to let you have a full response by 17 March.

Yours sincerely

**Immigration Enforcement**

Freedom of Information & Parliamentary Questions Team