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Guy Freeman
Whatdotheyknow.com

Our ref RFI 3229
Date 22 March 2010

Dear Mr Freeman

Provision of requested information

Thank you for your request for information about the closure of the climatechange.gov.uk website which we received on 3 March 2010. Your request has been considered under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Defra has never owned the climatechange.gov.uk domain name. We believe you may be referring to climatechallenge.gov.uk, as a redirect from this site was in place to direct.gov.uk until March 2009. The redirect was set up when climate.challenge.gov.uk was closed in March 2008 as some material previously on the site was rewritten and published to Directgov. The redirect remained in place for 12 months at which time it expired.

We do not hold any documentation that outlines the specific 'decision to redirect' the climate challenge website. However, we are able to provide the reasoning behind the decision to close the site and enclose an audit which outlines which content areas were chosen to be added to Directgov (Annex b).

Reasons for the closure of climatechallenge.gov.uk

1. Under the Government-wide website rationalisation process, all Government owned websites are being reviewed with the intention that citizen-facing content and services are delivered through Directgov (for more information see Sir David Varney's Service transformation paper, Annex c). As part of this process, Defra assessed the climate challenge website and decided that it met this criteria and that the content should be delivered through Directgov.
2. The climate challenge website was funded under the umbrella of the Tomorrow's Climate, Today's Challenge campaign which had a definitive timescale. The funding

for this campaign, including allocated budget for the hosting of the website, ended on 31 March 2008.

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In keeping with the spirit and effect of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 all information is assumed to be releasable to the public unless exempt. The information you requested may now be published on our website together with any related information that will provide a key to its wider context.

If you have any queries about this letter, please contact me. I also attach annexe a giving contact details should you be unhappy with the services you have received.

Yours sincerely

Robert Jones

Email: robert.h.jones@defra.gsi.gov.uk

Annexe a

Complaints

If you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request you may make a complaint or appeal against our decision within 40 working days of the date of this letter. Please write to Clive Porro, Head of Defra's Information Rights Team at Area 1B, Ergon House, Horseferry Road, London, SW1P 2AL (email: informationrights@defra.gsi.gov.uk), who will arrange for an internal review of your case. Details of Defra's complaints procedure can be found at: www.defra.gov.uk/corporate/complain/info.htm.

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. Please note that generally the Information Commissioner cannot make a decision unless you have first exhausted Defra's own complaints procedure. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

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