



UK Export
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Ms Verity Jaeger

Via whatdotheyknow.com

2 July 2015

Dear Ms Jaeger

INTERNAL REVIEW IR(15)01 – Original request FOI(14)76

I refer to your email of 17 February 2015 (set out below for ease of reference), requesting an internal review of UK Export Finance's ("UKEF") response dated 26 January 2015 to your request for information. I apologise for the delay in responding to you.

"I am writing to request an internal review of Export Credits Guarantee Department's handling of my FOI request 'Civil servants re-employed / re-engaged'.

You assert that "disclosure of the name of a private company involved in the procurement of the services of this individual would be unfair". This is a shocking response from a Government Department and I cannot believe that the Public Accounts Committee would accept this behaviour. I don't think you have considered the public interest properly.

The public has a right to know about private companies taking taxpayers' money. It is not right for people to be able to hide behind private companies to claim taxpayers' money and it is indefensible that a public body can condone this"

This Internal Review has been undertaken by a senior official of UKEF. The Internal Reviewer had no involvement in responding to the initial request and carried out an impartial review of the decision making in responding to the initial request.

The Internal Reviewer found that the decision to withhold the name of the member of staff who retired and was subsequently reengaged, including the name of the private company involved in engaging that member of staff, under Section 40(2) of the FOI to be appropriate.

In reaching this decision, the Internal Reviewer concluded that disclosure of the name of one of the companies involved in engaging the member of staff would not be fair to the data subject and, as such, would contravene the first data protection principle. The Internal Reviewer reasoned that the name of the company constituted personal data as

it would have revealed the name of the individual concerned, and could therefore enable the individual to be identified by parties outside of UKEF. It would not normally be considered fair to name individuals in posts below the most senior levels in the context of information about salaries or pay rates.

In terms of public interest in the context of considering fairness, the Internal Reviewer concluded on a basis of a balancing exercise that it would not be fair to disclose the data given the possible consequences of disclosure on the individual and legitimate interests in the public in having access to the information.

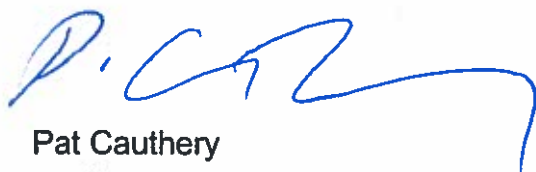
In view of this, the Internal Reviewer upheld the original response to FOI(14)76.

If you have any queries about this letter, please contact me. You should quote the reference number above in any future communications.

If you are not content with any aspect of this letter, 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,



Pat Cauthery
Senior Information Officer



UK Export Finance is the operating name of the Export Credits Guarantee Department