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Mr M Bimmler
request-442122-
4e9e42b9@whatdotheyknow.com
27 November 2017

Dear Mr Bimmler

Freedom of Information request: reference 46032

Thank you for your e-mail of 31 October 2017, in which you ask for any records held on communications with the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) regarding the Home Office's timeliness in responding to FOI requests and Internal Review requests in 2017. Your request is being handled as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

We are considering your request. Although the FOIA 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 FOIA allows us to exceed the 20 working day response target where we need to consider the public interest test fully.

The information which you have requested is being considered under the exemption in section 31(1)(g) by reason of 31(2)(c) of the FOIA. 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 28 December 2017.

Yours sincerely

Martin Riddle
Information Rights Team

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