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Yahya Birt
request-296826-172d2814@whatdotheyknow.com

FOI Reference: FOI321889
19/11/2015

Dear Yahya Birt

I refer to your request where you asked:

“I write to put in a Freedom of Information request about the new Community Engagement Forum that had its first meeting on 13 October 2015 with the Prime Minister and the Home Secretary to create a common platform against extremism.

Firstly, please provide more detail than is currently in the public domain about the purpose, remit and role of the CEF. Secondly, who are its current 30 members and by what process and by which criteria were they selected?”

I am writing to advise you that following a search of our paper and electronic records, I have established that the information you requested is held by the Cabinet Office.

In his speech on countering extremism in July, the Prime Minister said that he wanted to hear directly from all those in our society who are tackling extremism. The Community Engagement Forum is one of the ways the Prime Minister plans to do this.

On membership and criteria for participation in the forum, please see this written answer from the Home Office to a Parliamentary Question:

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2015-10-29/14141/>

A list of individuals who attended the first meeting of the Community Engagement Forum on 13 October 2015 can be found at:

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2015-10-22/13090/>

Further details can be found here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/prime-minister-i-want-to-build-a-national-coalition-to-challenge-and-speak-out-against-extremism>

If you have any queries about this letter, please contact the FOI team. Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

If you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request or wish to request an internal review, you should write to:

Helen Ewen
Cabinet Office
70 Whitehall
London
SW1A 2AS

email: foi-team@cabinetoffice.gov.uk

You should note that the Cabinet Office will not normally accept an application for internal review if it is received more than two months after the date that the reply was issued.

If you are not content with the outcome of your internal review, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. Generally, the Commissioner cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the complaints procedure provided by Cabinet Office. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

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

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in grey ink, appearing to read 'Helen Ewen', is positioned above the typed name and title.

FOI Team
Cabinet Office