



Department  
for Exiting the  
European Union

Freedom of Information Team  
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Mr Bell  
Via: request-424859-51e4660d@whatdotheyknow.com

Our ref: DEX000542 Extension

06 September 2017

Dear Mr Bell,

**RE: MINISTERIAL MEETINGS**

I refer to your request, where you asked:

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I would like to know how many times since 23 June 2016 ministers and civil servants of the department have met with representatives of the Legatum Institute. Please provide a list of all such meetings and the names of the attendees. Please also list all other departmental events of whatever type or description to which Legatum Institute representatives have been invited, along with a list of such representatives and the subject matter of the event.

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I can confirm that the Department for Exiting the EU (DExEU) holds information relevant to your request, but I am writing to advise you that I must extend the time limit for our response.

It is occasionally necessary to extend the 20 working day time limit for issuing a response. The Freedom of Information Act (the "Act") does not define what may constitute a 'reasonable' amount of time for an extension, however, guidance from the Information Commissioner's Office advises that extensions should normally take no longer than 20 additional working days.

We require further time to consider the public interest test under the following exemptions of the Act:

- Section 22(1)(a)(b) and (c), which exempts information if: (a) the information is held by a public authority with a view to its publication, by the authority or any other person, at some future date (whether determined or not); (b) the information was already held with a view to such publication at the time when the request for information was made, and; (c) it is reasonable in all the circumstances that the information should be withheld from disclosure until the date referred to in paragraph (a).

We have not yet reached a decision on whether the balance of the public interest favours disclosure of this information.

By virtue of section 10(3), when public authorities have to consider the balance of the public interest in relation to a request, they do not have to comply with the request until such time as is reasonable in the circumstances. We wish to fully consider where the balance of the public interest lies in relation to your request.

I hope to let you have a response within a further 20 working days of 06 September 2017. If I can reply before that date, I shall do so. If I need more time to consider the balance of the public interest, I shall write again to let you know.

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.

Yours sincerely,

**FOI Team**  
**Department for Exiting the EU (DExEU)**