



PETE FALMOUTH

By email request-459046-ed4a4c7d@whatdotheyknow.com

FOI Reference: FOI325781
19/2/2017

Dear PETE FALMOUTH

I refer to your request where you asked:

“Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, I am requesting documents which contain the following:

Correspondence, including emails, between Cabinet Office ministers, officials or representatives and any of the following individuals: Tony Blair; Mark Malloch-Brown; James McGrory; Jolyon/Jo Maugham; Nick Clegg; Gina Miller; Tom Brake; or Peter Mandelson, during the year 2016.

Correspondence, including emails, between Cabinet Office ministers, officials or representatives and any of the following individuals: Tony Blair; Mark Malloch-Brown; James McGrory; Jolyon/Jo Maugham; Nick Clegg; Gina Miller; Tom Brake; or Peter Mandelson, during the year 2017.

Correspondence, including emails, sent or received by Cabinet Office ministers, officials or representatives which mention the following names: Tony Blair; Mark Malloch-Brown; James McGrory; Jolyon/Jo Maugham; Nick Clegg; Gina Miller; Tom Brake; or Peter Mandelson, during the year 2016.

Correspondence, including emails, sent or received by Cabinet Office ministers, officials or representatives which mention the following names: Tony Blair; Mark Malloch-Brown; James McGrory; Jolyon/Jo Maugham; Nick Clegg; Gina Miller; Tom Brake; or Peter Mandelson, during the year 2017.”

I must inform you that the Cabinet Office is unable to comply with your request. Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act relieves public authorities of the duty to comply with a request for information if the cost of dealing with it would exceed the appropriate limit. The appropriate limit has been specified in regulations and for central Government this is set at £600. This represents the estimated cost of one person spending 3½ working days in determining whether the Department holds the information, and locating, retrieving and extracting it.

The reason that your request exceeds the cost limit is that relevant information could be contained in very many files. Searching all those that might contain relevant information to determine whether the Cabinet Office holds any information relevant to your request

will exceed the appropriate limit laid down in the regulations. If you wish, you may refine your request in order to bring the cost of determining whether the Cabinet Office holds relevant information, locating, retrieving and extracting it, below the appropriate limit. The period covered by your request is very long and one way to refine it would be to narrow the period it covers but even a shorter period would require us to search many files and would not be sufficient, on its own, to make it possible for us to comply with your request within the appropriate limit. Bearing in mind that our records are classified by broad subject areas, I consider that we will not be able to carry out a search for information unless you can relate the information you seek to a definite context such as a particular policy or region or a notable event or initiative. I must also inform you that if the Cabinet Office does hold any information, it may be subject to one or more of the exemptions contained in the Freedom of Information Act.

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:

Sharon Carter
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 black ink, appearing to be 'A. B. Smith', written on a light blue background.

**FOI Team
Cabinet Office**