



PETE FALMOUTH

By email [request-459046-ed4a4c7d@whatdotheyknow.com](mailto:request-459046-ed4a4c7d@whatdotheyknow.com)

FOI Reference: FOI326043

04/04/2018

Dear PETE FALMOUTH

I refer to your request where you asked:

*"Could I amend my request as follows (marked in asterisks):*

*Correspondence, including emails, between \*\*Cabinet Office ministers or their respective diary secretaries\* and any of the following individuals: Tony Blair; Mark Malloch-Brown; James McGrory; Jolyon/Jo Mauqham; Nick Clegg; Gina Miller; Tom Brake; or Peter Mandelson \*between July-December 2016\*.*

*Correspondence, including emails, between \*\*Cabinet Office ministers or their respective diary secretaries\* and any of the following individuals: Tony Blair; Mark Malloch-Brown; James McGrory; Jolyon/Jo Mauqham; Nick Clegg; Gina Miller; Tom Brake; or Peter Mandelson \*between January-June 2017\*.*

*Correspondence, including emails, between \*\*Cabinet Office ministers or their respective diary secretaries\* and any of the following individuals: Tony Blair; Mark Malloch-Brown; James McGrory; Jolyon/Jo Mauqham; Nick Clegg; Gina Miller; Tom Brake; or Peter Mandelson \*between July-December 2017\*.*

*Correspondence, including emails, between \*\*Cabinet Office ministers or their respective diary secretaries\* and any of the following individuals: Tony Blair; Mark Malloch-Brown; James McGrory; Jolyon/Jo Mauqham; Nick Clegg; Gina Miller; Tom Brake; or Peter Mandelson \*between January-March 2018\*.*

*Is this more acceptable?"*

I must inform you that the Cabinet Office is still 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.

Although you have narrowed the scope of your request to some degree, the request as it now stands would still exceed the cost limit. This is because the information you have asked for is very wide in scope and the relevant information could be contained in very many files. Searching all those files that might contain relevant information, to

determine whether the Cabinet Office holds any information relevant to your request, would involve extensive work to search, locate and retrieve the information.

If you wish, you may continue to refine your request in order to bring the cost below the appropriate limit. Currently, your request still covers a large number of people, a wide timeframe and seeks all correspondence between the named individuals. Providing context for the request, for example by narrowing or focusing the request to a specific subject or policy area, is likely to assist significantly in bringing the request within the cost limit.

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 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:

Sharon Carter  
Cabinet Office  
70 Whitehall  
London  
SW1A 2AS

email: [foi-team@cabinetoffice.gov.uk](mailto: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**