

Ms L Watson

request-442409-ba4ccced@whatdotheyknow.com

Date: 27 November 2017

Dear Ms Watson,

Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Request – 171101012

Thank you for your request of 16 October 2017 in which you asked for the following information from the Ministry of Justice (MoJ):

'This FOI request is specifically addressed the Ministry of Justice Technology directorate, to the MoJ's Principal Accounting Officer (the Permanent Secretary) and to the Information Asset Owner (IAO) in charge and holding the data relating to all civil court proceedings.

A – Provide the date when all the recorded information for the case ref. no: 55 of 2017 allegedly issued by the administration staff of the County Court at Bournemouth and Poole was stored in your secure data centre system managed by the MoJ Technology directorate and confirm that you have all the data content in the computerised court records of the case.

B - Confirm that all the recorded information contained in the computerised court record for the County Court case ref. no: 55 of 2017 was directly transferred to the MoJ by the administration of the originating County Court who recorded it on to Caseman system, provide the date when the data was first transferred to the caseman database and confirm that all the data is now controlled by the MoJ Technology directorate.

C – Confirm that all the recorded information relevant to the County Court case ref. no: 55 of 2017 is in possession of the Information Asset Owner (IAO) in charge as a member of the MoJ Operational Directorate as part of all the data held, relating to all civil court proceedings under the direct control of the Ministry of Justice.

D - The name/s of Principal Accounting Officer/s of HMCTS in charge for the period between 2010 to 2017 and the specific departmental team, address and contact details of the current HMCTS' Principal Accounting Officer in charge at the time of this FOI request.

I make clear that I am not asking for the general process of creation, management and transfer of court records (Information Management System) but rather in the recorded information about those specific public records under this reference number 55 of 2017 (date of issuing the records, date of transfer and confirmation with date of recording in Caseman database. etc).'

Your request has been handled under the FOIA.

The MoJ considers your request to be vexatious and, in accordance with section 14(1) of the FOIA, we will not be taking it any further.

In determining your request to be vexatious, the MoJ has considered your request against the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) guidance on vexatious requests. A copy of this guidance can be found on the ICO website, via the following link:

<https://ico.org.uk/media/for-organisations/documents/1198/dealing-with-vexatious-requests.pdf>

The MoJ considers your request to be vexatious for the following reasons:

Deliberate intention to cause annoyance

This FOI request is very similar to other requests we have received; with only some minor changes between them. We have identified these requests to be a part of a campaign against the department with the purpose to disrupt and cause annoyance.

No obvious intent to obtain information

The request is not actually asking for copies of documents held. Instead, it asks for confirmation that these documents are held securely on the computer system stated. There does not seem to be a genuine request to obtain information.

Burden on authority

This FOI request is similar to other requests the MoJ has received. We have identified they are part of a campaign and responding to such requests would place a burden on our department's resources that is out of proportion to the subject asked about.

Personal grudge

Part of this FOI request targets our employees

Disproportionate effort

The request pursues a relatively trivial or highly personalised matter that's of little, if any, benefit to the wider public. We would have to expend a disproportionate amount of resources in order to meet this request, and the other requests submitted as part of this campaign.

Appeal Rights

If you are not satisfied with this response you have the right to request an internal review by responding in writing to one of the addresses below within two months of the date of this response.

data.access@justice.gsi.gov.uk

Data Access and Compliance Unit, Ministry of Justice, 10.38, 102 Petty France, London, SW1H 9AJ

You do have the right to ask the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) to investigate any aspect of your complaint. However, please note that the ICO is likely to expect internal complaints procedures to have been exhausted before beginning their investigation.

Yours sincerely

KILO & Business Support, HMCTS, SW Regional Support Unit