



Department
for Exiting the
European Union

Freedom of Information Team
Correspondence Unit
9 Downing Street
SW1A 2AG

foi@dex.eu.gov.uk
www.gov.uk

Chris Storey

Via: request-600878-8a491f67@whatdotheyknow.com

Our ref: IR2019/07716

19 September 2019

Dear Chris Storey,

**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REF: FOI2019/07008 - INTERNAL REVIEW
REF IR2019/07716**

I am writing to you regarding your email of 3 September 2019 in which you requested an internal review be conducted of our response to your request made under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 ('the Act').

The original request:

On 1 September 2019 you asked for the following information:

** The commercial process that was used to select the key suppliers for the production of the "Get ready for Brexit" campaign. Were any processes shortcut e.g. single tender due to the pressing time?*

** who the key suppliers are?*

** are any of the suppliers related to or have conflicts of interest with either Dxeu staff or those at number 10, including Special Advisers?*

The original response from DExEU:

The response (a full copy can be found at **annex A** of this letter) of 3 September 2019 stated that the Department for Exiting the European Union (DExEU) did not hold the information requested and suggested you contact the Freedom of Information Team at the Cabinet Office in regards to your request.

The Internal Review Request:

On 3 September you emailed the department as follows:

'I am writing to request an internal review of Department for Exiting the European Union's handling of my FOI request

....

As a department using the facilities of other departments, you have a responsibility to ensure that things are proper and above board.

I cannot believe that this department cannot be clear in their response and therefore provide an accurate response.'

Conclusion:

I have now reviewed the original response from DExEU and considered the points you raise in your request for an Internal Review. In summary, I find that the original response was correct to confirm the information was not held by DExEU and to suggest that you approach the Cabinet office in regards to your request.

The "[Get ready for Brexit](#)" campaign is run by the Cabinet Office. Any commercial management of related contracts (as well as any conflict of interest procedures should they have been required) will have been managed by the Cabinet Office and through Crown Commercial Services where necessary. DExEU does not hold the information you have requested and is not required to gather it from other Departments for the purposes of responding to requests for information under the Act. As previously stated, you may wish to contact the Cabinet Office at the below address in regards to your request:

foi-team@cabinetoffice.gov.uk

This response ends the complaints process provided by the Department. If you are not content with the outcome of your internal review, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

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

Yours sincerely

DExEU FOI Team

Annex A - Original FOI response from DExEU:

Freedom of Information Team foi@dex.eu.gov.uk
Correspondence Unit www.gov.uk
9 Downing Street
SW1A 2AG

Chris Storey
Via: request-600878-8a491f67@whatdotheyknow.com

Our ref: FOI2019/07008

3 September 2019

Dear Chris Storey,

We refer to your request of 2 September, where you asked:

** The commercial process that was used to select the key suppliers for the production of the "Get ready for Brexit" campaign. Were any processes shortcut e.g. single tender due to the pressing time?*

** who the key suppliers are?*

** are any of the suppliers related to or have conflicts of interest with either Dxeu staff or those at number 10, including Special Advisers?'*

We have dealt with your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 ('the Act'). The Department for Exiting the European Union (DExEU) does not hold the specific information within the scope of your request. This is because DExEU works with other Government departments on some large scale marketing campaigns which DExEU does not lead on, most prominently with the Cabinet Office. If you are interested in these, you may wish to contact the Freedom of Information Team at the Cabinet Office who may hold further information relevant to your request.

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 foiappeals@dex.eu.gov.uk or:

Freedom of Information Team (internal review)
Department for Exiting the European Union
9 Downing Street

You should note that DExEU 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. Generally, the Commissioner cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the complaints procedure provided by DExEU. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

The Information Commissioner's Office
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF

Yours sincerely,

Freedom of Information Team
Department for Exiting the European Union