



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

Ally Tibbitt
Via: request-468916-a920183f@whatdotheyknow.com

Our ref: DEX001109

3 April 2018

Dear Ally Tibbitt,

I refer to your request, where you asked:

1) The Guardian reported that David Davis attended a conference at Oxford University in September 2016. I understand Legatum representatives were present. Regarding this, I would like:

- A full list of those that attended (including names of MPs, legal and trade experts, as referred to by the Guardian)
- Reports, leaflets and pamphlets that were given out in the conference
- A schedule of the conference
- Emails between DExEU and the Legatum Institute about this conference at Oxford University

2) On the Legatum Institute website, David Davis spoke at a Legatum Institute conference in January 2017. Regarding this, I would like:

- A full list of those that attended
- Reports, leaflets and pamphlets that were given out in the conference
- A schedule of the conference
- Emails between DExEU and the Legatum Institute about this conference in January 2017 (as well as subsequent correspondence relating to this event)
- Whether Davis received and accepted a fee for speaking at the conference. If so, please state how much.

3) Please state whether DExEU ministers (past and present) have attended other conferences/events/seminars where Legatum representatives were present, or where the Legatum Institute hosted such conferences/events/seminars. For each one, I would like:

- The date and location of the conference/event/seminar
 - Which DExEU minister attended
 - A description of the conference/event/seminar
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I must inform you that the Department for Exiting the EU (DExEU) is unable to comply with your requests. Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act (the "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.

Section 12 Reasoning

Part 3 of your request asks for information on any and all conferences/events/seminars attended by DExEU Ministers at which representatives from the Legatum Institute may have been present. Considering the way our records are stored and classified and the lack of specificity of part 3 (i.e. no specific events are mentioned), searching for this information would require a member of staff to review and collate information on all events attended by Ministers. Furthermore, they would be required to review the information to determine whether we hold information on the attendees and then if representatives from the Legatum Institute were present. We find that this would exceed the time and cost limits specified in section 12 of the Act.

Advice and Assistance

In order to bring your request within the time and cost limits of section 12, we recommend you remove part 3 of your request. If you wish for part 3 to be included in future requests, we would recommend you review Ministerial meetings published as part of our transparency data and select which meetings you would like us to include in the search parameters. We would advise you to limit the number of events to 5 or fewer. I have included a link to our most recent transparency publication data:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/department-for-exiting-the-european-union-ministerial-gifts-hospitality-travel-and-meetings-october-to-december-2017>

It may also be of use to note that the Department does not routinely store information on events which are not organised by the Department, such as mentioned in 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 foi@dex.eu.gov.uk or:

Freedom of Information Team (internal review)
Department for Exiting the European Union
9 Downing Street
SW1A 2AG

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 for a decision. 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, DExEU.