

Legal & Governance Services



**Northern Ireland
Assembly**

Room 239,
Parliament Buildings
Ballymiscaw
Stormont
Belfast, BT4 3XX

Tel: +44 (0) 28 9052 1147
e-mail: foi@niassembly.gov.uk

Our Ref: Fol 82-16

Mr Jonathan Mantle
request-347941-170c1491@whatdotheyknow.com

25 August 2016

Dear Mr Mantle

Freedom of Information Act 2000

I can confirm that the Northern Ireland Assembly holds information relevant to your request of 26 July 2016. In your request you asked for the following information:

- “1) Do you send files to the National Archive in London. if so please can you tell me the time frame you keep files before sending.
- 2) If the answer to the above question is no, please can you tell me if you have your own national archive which is similar to the one in London
- 3) The UK government have retention instruments which prevents files being passed to the National Archive in the interests of security. Please can you tell me if you have this power and what is the legal instrument you have which stops files being passed to the national archive. If you do not have this power, please can you tell me who has the power to stop files being placed into the public domain.”

Please find a response to your request at **Appendix A**.

If you feel that the information we have provided does not meet your request fully please contact this office as soon as possible. You have the right to request a formal review by the Northern Ireland Assembly and if you wish to do so, please write to me at the above address.

If after such an internal review you are still unhappy with the response, you have the right to appeal to the Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF who will undertake an independent review.

If you have any queries about this letter, please contact me. Please remember to quote the reference number above.

Yours sincerely

Martina Dalton

MARTINA DALTON
Information Standards Officer

Appendix A

1. Do you send files to the National Archive in London. if so please can you tell me the time frame you keep files before sending.
2. If the answer to the above question is no, please can you tell me if you have your own national archive which is similar to the one in London

The Northern Ireland Assembly do not send files to the National Archive. The Public Record Office of Northern Ireland (PRONI) is the official archive for Northern Ireland. Please find a link to the [PRONI website](#) which provides further information and contact detail should you wish to contact them directly.

3. The UK government have retention instruments which prevents files being passed to the National Archive in the interests of security. Please can you tell me if you have this power and what is the legal instrument you have which stops files being passed to the national archive. If you do not have this power, please can you tell me who has the power to stop files being placed into the public domain."

**This information is not held by the Northern Ireland Assembly. Information regarding the Northern Ireland government is a matter for the [Northern Ireland Executive](#). The Northern Ireland Assembly is a separate entity to the Northern Ireland Executive. The Northern Ireland Executive is made up of the First Minister, deputy First Minister, two Junior Ministers and 8 departmental ministers. Please find contact details for the NI Executive as follows:
<https://www.northernireland.gov.uk/contact>**

