



Home Office

Office for Security and Counter-Terrorism

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FOI reference: 24112

Saf Hussain

request-128288-5a94147f@whatdotheyknow.com

3 October 2012

Dear Mr Hussain,

Thank you for your e-mail of 5 September 2012, in which you ask:

- *if the Home Office supplies any funding to either the Ramadhan or Quilliam Foundations,*
- *if funding is provided can you please advise the amounts for the last 5 years and for what purpose(s)*

Your request has been handled as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

The following funding has been provided to the Quilliam Foundation:

- 2008-09 – £664,908.00
- 2009-10 – £387,382.10
- 2010-11 – £158,906.66
- 2011-12 – £26,993.34
- 2012-13 – no funding

The purpose of the Home Office funding was to allow the Quilliam Foundation to work in and with Muslim communities to challenge the ideology of terrorism and extremism. The funding was used for projects, programmes and running costs.

Regarding any other information we neither confirm nor deny whether we hold information you requested. Sections 24(2), 38(2) and 43(3) of the Freedom Information Act absolve us from the requirement to say whether or not we hold information. These exemptions relate to national security, health and safety and commercial interests respectively. Further explanation of this decision, including any relevant public interest tests, are set out in the attached Annex.

This response should not be taken as conclusive evidence that the information you have requested is or is not held by the Home Office.

If you are dissatisfied with this response you may request an independent internal review of our handling of your request by submitting a complaint within two months to the address below, quoting reference **24112**. If you ask for an internal review, it would be helpful if you could say why you are dissatisfied with the response.

Information Access Team
Home Office
Ground Floor, Seacole Building
2 Marsham Street
London SW1P 4DF
e-mail: FOIRequests@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk

As part of any internal review the Department's handling of your information request will be reassessed by staff who were not involved in providing you with this response. If you remain dissatisfied after this internal review, you would have a right of complaint to the Information Commissioner as established by section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act.

Yours sincerely,

J Fanshaw

ANNEX A: Public Interest Test

Section 24 (2) – National Security

Public interest considerations in favour of the duty to either confirm or deny whether information is held – section 24(2)

Confirming or denying if individuals and organisations are funded by the Home Office would enable better public scrutiny of operational counter-terrorism work and crime prevention in general.

Public interest considerations against the duty to either confirm or deny whether information is held – section 24(2)

Confirming or denying if individuals and organisations are funded by the Home Office would potentially reduce the credibility of these individuals and organisations. This would discourage others from engaging and contributing towards the CT agenda. These factors would serve to undermine the effectiveness of CT and hence weaken and prejudice the National Security of the UK.

Balance of the public interest – section 24(2)

We assess that safeguarding national security interests is of overriding importance and that in this instance the public interest is best served by neither confirming nor denying whether individuals or organisations have received funding to deliver or support CT work.

Section 38 (2) – Health and Safety.

Public interest considerations in favour of the duty to either confirm or deny whether information is held – section 38(2)

As above.

Public interest considerations against the duty to either confirm or deny whether information is held – section 38(2)

Confirming or denying if individuals and organisations are funded by the Home Office would potentially jeopardise the personal security of these individuals and organisations by potentially making them targets of reprisals or reactions, thereby putting their wellbeing in danger and endangering their health and safety.

Balance of the public interest – section 38(2)

We assess that the health and safety of those employed by HM Government is of overriding importance and that in this instance the public interest is best served by neither confirming nor denying whether individuals or organisations have received funding to deliver or support CT work.

Section 43 (3) – Commercial interests

Public interest considerations in favour of the duty to either confirm or deny whether information is held – section 43(3)

As above.

Public interest considerations against the duty to either confirm or deny whether information is held – section 43(3)

Confirming or denying if individuals and organisations are funded by the Home Office would potentially reduce the credibility of these individuals and organisations, undermining their effectiveness and making their services less attractive to HM Government and other potential clients.

It would also serve to discourage others from contributing towards the CT agenda, making it more difficult and potentially more expensive for HM Government to procure services in support of Prevent.

Balance of the public interest – section 43(3)

We assess that the commercial concerns of HM Government and Prevent stakeholders are of greater importance than increasing the public scrutiny of operational counter-terrorism work and that therefore, in this instance, the public interest is best served by neither confirming nor denying whether individuals or organisations have received funding to deliver or support CT work.