



Department
for Business
Innovation & Skills

1 Victoria Street
London SW1H 0ET

T +44 (0) 20 7215 5000
D enquiries@bis.gsi.gov.uk
www.gov.uk/bis

Mr Stuart Lawson

Our ref FOI2015/08297
Your ref

Email: request-266909-0271be54@whatdotheyknow.com

- 04 June 2015

Dear Mr Lawson

Thank you for email of 06 May 2015 where you requested the following information:

"I would like information regarding any meetings between BIS officials and representatives from academic publishers, from 1 January 2014 to date, to include:

- dates of meetings
- agendas / topics for discussion
- names of those present
- minutes / notes / records of the meetings

In order to focus your search and help you identify academic publishers in your records, the four largest commercial academic publishers are Elsevier (part of RELX Group, formerly Reed Elsevier), Wiley (Wiley-Blackwell), Springer (now Springer Nature, formerly Springer Science + Business Media), and Taylor & Francis".

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 ('the Act'), you have the right to:

- know whether we hold the information you require
- be provided with that information (subject to any exemptions under the Act which may apply).

A copy of the information which can be disclosed, is enclosed.

The remainder of the information that you requested is exempt under section 40 (Personal Information) of the Act and is therefore withheld. Additionally, some of the information the Department holds is already in the public domain and is therefore exempt under section 21 of the Act as we are not required to provide information which is already reasonably accessible to you. The requisite links are embedded within our response below.

Section 40 (Personal Information)

Some of the requested information has been withheld under Section 40 of the Act. Section 40(2)(a)(iii) and section 40(3)(a)(i) apply to information whose disclosure would contravene any of the data protection principles in the Data Protection Act 1998 (or certain other provisions of

the Data Protection Act 1998). This exempts information constituting the personal data of living individuals, the release of which would be in breach of the Department's obligations in respect of the Data Protection Principles as set out in the Data Protection Act. The definition of personal information to which section 40 applies is wide and can include references to identifiable individuals.

In this case, the Department considers that the names (in association with disclosed information) of junior officials and 3rd parties fall within the ambit of the first Data Protection Principle, that the Personal data must be processed fairly and lawfully and, in particular, must not be processed unless at least one of the conditions in Schedule 2 to the DPA is met. Our view is that release of this information would not be fair and that none of the conditions of Schedule 2 are met. The exemption from the duty to disclose personal data where to do so would breach a data protection principle is an absolute exemption; the public interest test in section 2 of the FOI Act does not apply.

Appeals Procedure

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review. Internal review requests should be submitted within two months of the date of receipt of the response to your original letter and should be sent to the Information Rights Unit at:

Information Rights Unit
Department for Business, Innovation & Skills
1 Victoria Street
London
SW1H 0ET
E-mail: foi.requests@bis.gsi.gov.uk

Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF.

Yours sincerely

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Date of meeting	Publisher	Agenda / topics for discussion	BIS staff present	Notes or minutes
10 th January 2014	Elsevier	Promotion of the International Comparative Performance of the UK Research Base	s40 of the FOI	Telephone call, no formal note kept.
27 th January 2014	Elsevier	Promotion of the International Comparative Performance of the UK Research Base	s40 of the FOI	Telephone call, no formal note kept
14 th February 2014	Elsevier	Promotion of the International Comparative Performance of the UK Research Base	s40 of the FOI	Telephone call, no formal note kept
14 Feb 2014	Publishers Association.	No information.	Ron Egginton	No formal note kept.
24 th February 2014	Elsevier	Presentation of the report on the promotion of the International Comparative Performance of the UK Research Base	s40 of the FOI	Presentation to BIS staff
24 th February 2014	Elsevier	No information.	Ron Egginton	No formal note kept.
13 May 2014	Elsevier	No information.	Ron Egginton	No formal note kept.
21 July 2014	Publishers Association	Introductory meeting re Open Access policy and implementation	s40 of the FOI	No formal note kept.
28 July 2014	Elsevier	Introductory meeting re Open Access policy and implementation	s40 of the FOI	No formal note kept.
15 August 2014	Wiley	Introductory meeting re Open Access policy and implementation	s40 of the FOI	No formal note kept.
9-10 October 2014				Notes of meeting and full attendance is publicly available at http://www.researchinfonet.org/research-data/open-research-data-forum/
23 October				Notes of meeting and full attendance is publicly available

Date of meeting	Publisher	Agenda / topics for discussion	BIS staff present	Notes or minutes
2014				at http://www.rcuk.ac.uk/research/openaccess/2014review/secondpanelmeeting/
31 October 2014				Details at http://www.universitiesuk.ac.uk/aboutus/whatwedo/PolicyAnalysis/ResearchInnovation/Pages/UKOpenAccessCoordinationGroup.aspx
4 Feb 2015	Elsevier	Introductory meeting, open access to research	s40 of the FOI	No formal note kept.
2 March 2015	Elsevier	Introductory meeting, open access to data	s40 of the FOI	No formal note kept.
9 March 2015	Publishers Association	Introductory meeting, open access to research	s40 of the FOI	No formal note kept.
22 April 2015	Wiley	Introductory meeting, open access to research	s40 of the FOI	No formal note kept.
30 April 2015	Elsevier	Meeting to discuss potential for broader use of bibliometrics in research impact policy incl Elsevier report on Amsterdam's Competitive Advantage	s40 of the FOI	No formal note kept.