



2 Marsham Street
London
SW1P 4DF

16 December 2015

Terence Eden

Via e-mail: request-300685-c3e5b7bd@whatdotheyknow.com

Dear Mr Eden

Freedom of Information Request (ref. 37410)

Thank you for your e-mail 4 November in which you request:

"...The metadata of all emails sent to and from the Home Secretary for the period 1st January 2015 - 31st January 2015 inclusive.

I am not interested in the contents of the emails, nor the subject lines. I would like the following fields (if held).

- * Date & Time*
- * Recipient(s)*
- * Sender*
- * File names of any attachments*
- * Size of email including attachments*

Please can you supply these data in an open format such as a CSV file."

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

We have considered your request and we believe it to be vexatious. Section 14(1) of the Act provides that the Home Office is not obliged to comply with a request for information of this nature. We have decided that your request is vexatious because it places an unreasonable burden on the department, because it has adopted a scattergun approach and seems solely designed for the purpose of 'fishing' for information without any idea of what might be revealed.

The request is similar in nature to a request the Home Office received in 2014 that the Information Commissioners Office (ICO) agreed was vexatious. The decision notice in question can be found at this link:

<https://search.ico.org.uk/ico/search/decisionnotice?keywords=FS50544833>

Guidance issued by the ICO on vexatious requests can be found at this link:
<https://ico.org.uk/media/for-organisations/documents/1198/dealing-with-vexatious-requests.pdf>

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 **37410**. If you ask for an internal review, it would be helpful if you could say why you are dissatisfied with the response.

Information Rights Team
Home Office
Fourth Floor, Peel 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,

Ministerial Support Unit