

Edward Williams

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FOI Reference: 66425

9 November 2021

Dear Mr. Williams,

Thank you for your enquiry of 12 October, in which you requested additional information to your previous FOI request 64506, where you requested information on Asylum accommodation. Your request has been handled as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

We are considering your request. Although the FOI Act carries a presumption in favour of disclosure, it provides exemptions which may be used to withhold information in specified circumstances. Some of these exemptions, referred to as 'qualified' exemptions, are subject to a public interest test. This test is used to balance the public interest in disclosure against the public interest in favour of withholding the information. The FOI Act allows us to exceed the 20-working day response target where we need to consider the public interest test fully.

The information which you have requested is being considered under the exemption in section 43(2) of the FOI Act, which relates to commercial sensitivities. This is a qualified exemption and to consider the public interest test fully we need to extend the 20-working day response period. We now aim to let you have a full response by 7 December.

Yours sincerely

M Egerton
Central Operations

We value your feedback, please use the link below to access a brief anonymous survey to help us improve our service to you:

<http://www.homeofficesurveys.homeoffice.gov.uk/s/108105TAZNG>