

Attorney General's Office 5-8 The Sanctuary London SW1P 3JS 020 7271 2492

www.gov.uk/ago

The Irish Conservatives.

request-529174-f9b1dd3b@whatdotheyknow.com by email only

31st October 2018

## Freedom of Information request: FOI/190/18

I am writing in response to the Freedom of Information request you submitted to this office and dated 30<sup>th</sup> October 2018 which is copied in bold below;

I am requesting all records held by the Attorney General's Office relating to:

A) Paul Anthony Golding (aka Paul Golding) recent arrest, imprisonment and bail

## Specifically:

- B) all the records relating to Paul Anthony Golding (aka Paul Golding) arrest and bail on or about the 24-25 of October, 2018 for public order offences in Ballymena on 20 October (specifically, three counts of publishing written material intended to stir up hatred and one count of using threatening, abusive, insulting words or behaviour) including, but NOT limited to: the actual charge sheet and any related documents, AND
- C) All records related to his upcoming court appearance at Ballymena Magistrates' Court on November 15 AND
- D) All records relating to and including his bail conditions

I would like acknowledgment of this Freedom Of Information Act request. I request all documents and correspondence in PDF form. I also request that all fees be waved.

Data Protection does not apply as the subject has made his case (including his arrest, bail conditions, ect) public though his Instagram account (@officialpaulgolding) and the Britain First website. See "Paul Golding ARRESTED - but Ballymena Protest WILL Proceed"

(https://www.britainfirst.org/paul\_golding\_arrested\_but\_ballymena\_protest\_will\_proceed) The above link was posted on the Britain First website. Paul Anthony Golding (aka Paul Golding) is the leader of Britain First.

The subject also made his case public though his instagram account, by the username @officialpaulgolding. Please see profile page of this Instagram account. (https://www.instagram.com/officialpaulgo...)

See (https://instagram.com/p/BpVPEX9livU/) The above link description is: "[BREAKING] Tonight Paul has been arrested in Belfast, more updates shortly. Follow @officialpaulgolding" See (https://instagram.com/p/BpW54Grl8yr/) The above link description is: "UPDATE: Paul has been released, video update shortly. follow @officialpaulgolding" See (https://instagram.com/p/BpW9oTHFXIi/) I will not put the above link description in this request, as it is easily accessible by clicking on the link.

The subject made his bail conditions public via See "SHOCKING: Statement regarding the ARREST of Paul Golding"

(https://www.britainfirst.org/shocking\_full\_statement\_regarding\_the\_arrest\_of\_paul\_gold ing)

The above link was posted on Britan First website. Once Again, Paul Golding is the leader of Britain First. In the above post, the subject made his bail conditions public:

"Here are Paul's new bail conditions:

- 1. Must not be within 500 metres of any public parade, protest or demonstration in Northern Ireland
- 2. Must not enter the town of Ballymena
- 3. Must reside at [redacted] and at no other address
- 4. To sign bail at [redacted] police station on Tuesday and Thursdays at 3pm"

Also, any concerns regarding prejudicing the ongoing case are not relevant for two reasons. First, the story is already public, as shown and proven above, and by the following media stories:

"Britain First leader Paul Golding charged with offences linked to Co Antrim antiimmigration leaflets" - (https://www.belfastlive.co.uk/news/belfast-news/britain-firstleader-paul-golding-15330416.amp) this story was published by Belfast Live

"Britain First leader Paul Golding arrested in Belfast over Ballymena 'public order offences'" - (https://amp.belfasttelegraph.co.uk/news/northern-ireland/britain-first-leader-paul-golding-arrested-in-belfast-over-ballymena-public-order-offences-37457654.html) This story was published by the Belfast telegraph digital

"Britain First leader Paul Golding charged after being arrested in Belfast" - (https://m.belfasttelegraph.co.uk/news/northern-ireland/britain-first-leader-paul-golding-charged-after-being-arrested-in-belfast-37458742.html) this story was published by Belfast telegraph Digital

I can provide more links to news stories about this case, further proving that it is in the public domain.

Second, when applying a public interest test, the public right to transparency outweighs any alleged potential concerns in this case.

I am also requesting all documents, including the actual referral document, relating to the referral of this case to the Attorney General's Office.

The Freedom of Information Act (2000) gives individuals and organisations the right of access to all types of recorded information held, at the time the request is received, by public authorities such as the Attorney General's Office (AGO).

I have now been able to consider your request and I can confirm under Section 1(1)(a) of the Act that we do not hold the information you have requested.

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 addressed to the above address.

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

FOI Officer

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