

1 Horse Guards Road gov.uk/uk-export-finance

London SW1A 2HQ

Ramzy Alwakeel 23 January 2020

request-628319-48e186b2@whatdotheyknow.com

Dear Ramzy Alwakeel

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000: FOI(19)83

I refer to your request for information (set out below in italics) dated 17 December 2019, which has been considered under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 ("FOIA").

I would like to make a request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Please can you tell me how many staff, whether full-time or part-time, from your department were seconded at any time between June 23, 2016 and December 12, 2019, to work on preparations for the possibility of a no-deal Brexit, either under the auspices of Operation Yellowhammer or in some other capacity?

Please provide (1) the number of staff involved and (2) the number of FTE weeks' work this represents.

In addition, please can you let me know the total number of staff working for your department (including anyone who has been seconded as a result of the above or any other reason) as of December 18, 2019?

If staff have not been formally seconded to work on preparations for no-deal Brexit but are nonetheless preparing for it in the course of their existing roles, please let me know how many FTEs your department was either instructed or advised to set aside for this work during the same time frame.

If this request is too wide or unclear, I would be grateful if you could contact me as I understand that under the Act you are required to advise and assist requesters. If any of this information is already in the public domain, please can you direct me to it, with page references and URLs if necessary.

I understand that you are required to respond to my request within the 20 working days after you receive this letter. I would be grateful if you could confirm in writing that you have received this request.

In response to your request:

1) Number of staff seconded to work on preparations for the possibility of a no-deal Brexit between 23 June 2016 and 12 December 2019. 2) Number of Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) weeks' work this represents.

0

3) Total number of UKEF staff as of 18 December 2019.

338

4) If staff have not been formally seconded to work on preparations for no-deal Brexit but are nonetheless preparing for it in the course of their existing roles, please let me know how many FTEs your department was either instructed or advised to set aside for this work during the same time frame.

A small number of UKEF staff were asked to include some preparation for a no-deal Brexit in the course of their existing roles. However, the amount of their overall workload this represented, taking into account the time range of your request, was negligible.

You may appeal against UKEF's decision-making in respect of this request by asking for an internal review to be carried out. Any request for an internal review should be received by UKEF within two calendar months of the date of this letter. If you wish to request an internal review you should write to Helen Meekings, Senior Information Officer, UK Export Finance, 1 Horse Guards Road, London, SW1A 2HQ, or email information.access@ukexportfinance.gov.uk.

If you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request and wish to make a complaint you should write to Helen Meekings at the above address.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, assuming you request one, 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,

UK Export Finance