



Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy

The Space Directorate
Department for Business, Energy &
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Our ref : FOI2021/15173

8 July 2021

Dear Mel F,

Thank you for your email of 12th June where you requested the following information:

I would like to understand the background to the review of government space responsibilities (the “space landscape review”) and in particular which Government department / official (including job title) first proposed that such a review should take place.

Please provide me with any email correspondence(sent or received), meeting minutes or other records that relate to this matter. For the avoidance of doubt, I am interested in records that pre-date the formal commissioning of the review.

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).

We can advise the Department does not hold information detailing who first suggested the review should take place.

From our preliminary assessment, we do not believe that we will be able to answer your request for any email correspondence(sent or received), meeting minutes or other records that relate to this matter without exceeding the cost limit of £600 provided under Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act ('the Act'). This represents the estimated cost of one person spending 3.5 working days in determining whether the Department holds the information, including locating, retrieving and extracting it. The Act provides that we are not obliged to comply with requests where the estimated cost of complying would exceed this limit.

In this case it is clear that to administer your request would require a substantial volume of work. The Department's work on the Landscape Review spans a range of teams and

directorates. To establish any relevant information, the Department holds would require a search of correspondence held by all officials across all the teams across months. We consider that doing this would place an unreasonable burden on the Department. Therefore, we will not process your request as currently drafted.

You may wish to refine your request by narrowing its scope. Considering that your request for information is very broad, you could for example focus on correspondence between BEIS and another Department/Partner Agency of interest, and/or include a time span for us to search within.

Once you have narrowed the scope, we will give due consideration to our obligations under the Freedom of Information Act ("the Act") in respect of that request.

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 request and should be addressed to the Information Rights & Records Unit. It would be helpful if you can tell us why you are dissatisfied with the response to your request so we may address this during the internal review.

Information Rights & Records Unit
Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy
1 Victoria Street
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Email: FOI.Requests@beis.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. Complaints can be made to the Information Commissioner via their website at: <https://ico.org.uk/make-a-complaint/official-information-concerns-report/official-information-concern/>.

Yours sincerely,

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