



10 DOWNING STREET

LONDON SW1A 2AA

foi-team@cabinetoffice.gov.uk

14 October 2015

Dear Mr Sloan

Our ref: FOI321738

Thank you for your email of 16 September in which you ask for *“the full content of all briefing notes (and similar) provided to the Prime Minister in preparation for questions to the Prime Minister in the House of Commons on 16 September 2015.”*

Your request has been handled under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

We are unable to provide the information you have requested because your request exceeds the cost limit set out by Section 12 of the Act. Section 12 makes provision for public authorities to refuse requests for information where the cost of dealing with them would exceed the appropriate limit, which for central government is set at £600. This represents the estimated cost of one person spending 3.5 working days in determining whether the department holds the information, locating, retrieving and extracting the information.

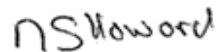
There is no such thing as a single, discrete file containing all the briefing notes for PMQs. We estimate therefore that it will take us more than 3 ½ days to locate, retrieve and extract information that is held. That is because information for PMQs potentially covers a very wide range of issues. We would need to search through a vast quantity of information in order to retrieve all the information we might hold within scope of your request.

That information could be held either electronically or manually, in a number of different files and locations. As well as any information held electronically searches would necessarily involve paper records which do not support full text searching.

In addition information within the scope of the request might also be held within attachments to e-mails. Our e-mail searches do not yield results from attachments and it would therefore be necessary to open and review each email attachment, again increasing the volume of materials that it would be necessary to review.

Under section 12 of the Act the Cabinet Office is not obliged to comply with your request and we will not be processing this further.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "N Howard". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

NICHOLAS HOWARD

Alistair P Sloan



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LONDON SW1A 2AA

If you are unhappy with the level of service you have received from this office in relation to any aspect of your request, you may ask for an internal review.

You should contact:

Roger Smethurst
Head of Knowledge and Information Management
Cabinet Office
1 Horse Guards Road
London
SW1A 2HQ

email: foi-team@cabinetoffice.gov.uk

You should note that the Cabinet Office will not normally accept an application for internal review if it is received more than two months after the date that the reply was issued.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner's Office for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF