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Mr Ismail Abdulhai Bhamjee and Mrs Saherabanu Ismail Bhamjee  
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By email only

19<sup>th</sup> December 2016

Our Ref: FOI/233/16

Dear Mr Bhamjee,

1. I am writing on behalf of the Attorney General's Office ("AGO") in response to the requests for information made under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 ("FOIA") in your email dated 21 November 2016. In that email, you made four separate requests for information. I respond to each of those requests in turn below.

First request

2. Your first request was as follows:

*Do you have a copy of Section 1 of the Legislative Reform Act 2006, Can you provide the details when the Attorney General or Solicitor General has made decisions to reduce burden on persons who are or have been wrongly declared as Vexatious Litigants under Section 42 of the SCA 1981.*

3. The Legislative Reform Act 2006 is publically available. It can be accessed online at <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2006/51/contents>. Under section 21 of FOIA, the AGO is not obliged to provide you with information which is accessible to you by other means.
4. The Law Officers do not have the power to declare individuals as vexatious litigants. Rather, they are empowered, under section 42 of the Senior Courts Act 1981, to apply to the High Court to declare a person as a vexatious litigant and impose a civil proceedings order, a criminal proceedings order or an all proceedings order.

5. As it is the High Court, not the Law Officers, who have the power to declare individuals to be vexatious litigants and impose a civil proceedings order, a criminal proceedings order or an all proceedings order under section 42 of the 1981 Act, the Law Officers do not have the power to reduce any burden on individuals subject to such orders.
6. The AGO therefore does not hold any information on decisions made by the Law Officers "to reduce burden on persons who are or have been wrongly declared as Vexatious Litigants under Section 42 of the SCA 1981", as no such decisions have been made.

Second request

7. Your second request was as follows:

*There is a Judgment given in Strasbourg Court, Grand Chamber on the 8th November 2016 Magyar Helenski Bizottsag Versus Hungary, where the United Kingdom Government had made some representations through a Barrister Counsel. Can you disclose the amount that had been paid to the Barrister for making representations before the European Court of Human Rights in Strasbourg.*

8. The AGO does not hold the information described in your request. The AGO did not have conduct of the case of *Magyar Helsinki Bizottság v Hungary* on behalf of the UK Government and therefore did not instruct a barrister. The department which had conduct of this case on behalf of the UK Government was the Cabinet Office.
9. As such, the AGO does not possess a record of the total amount which was paid to the barrister who appeared on behalf of the UK Government before the European Court of Human Rights in this case.

Third request

10. Your third request was as follows:

*Official Misconduct in Public Office at Common Law- The Numbers and List of Applications the Attorney General has appealed in the Court of Appeal. Since Section 1 of the Zambia Independence Act 1964 does apply, as British Citizens have no Legal Right to vote in any type of Elections in the Republic of Zambia from the 24th October 1964.*

*Can you provide the Costs that had been paid to the other Barrister who had appeared before the Divisional Court.*

11. The above request is not understood. It is unclear whether you are asking for information relating to a specific case, or to whom you are referring in the phrase "the other Barrister". If the above request is intended to be a request for recorded information held by the AGO, then please clarify the precise nature of the information you are seeking in a manner which will allow AGO officials to undertake a search for that information.

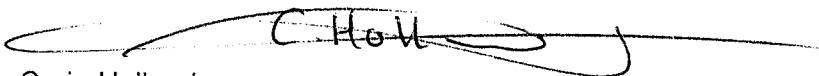
Fourth request

12. Your fourth request was as follows:

*Does the United Kingdom withdraws from the United Nations Treaties after the brexit Votes, Since the Court of Justice of the European Communities are either relying on the Treaties signed at the United Nations.*

13. The above request is not considered to constitute a request for recorded information held by the AGO, but rather a request for the AGO to provide a legal opinion or legal advice. The Law Officers are the chief legal advisers to the UK Government and the AGO supports them in this role. The AGO is not required to provide legal opinions or advice to individual members of the public.
14. I have now completed the AGO's consideration of your requests.
15. 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 (i.e. two months from the date on this letter) and should be sent to the above address.
16. Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.
17. 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,



Craig Hollands  
FOI Officer

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