



MARY PETERSON

By email [request-508774-6824b628@whatdotheyknow.com](mailto:request-508774-6824b628@whatdotheyknow.com)

FOI Reference: FOI326705  
05/09/2018

Dear MARY PETERSON

I refer to your request where you asked:

*"I hope you are well. Under the FOI Act, please could I request the following:*

*1) A copy of all correspondence (including emails) sent by Oliver Robbins, between 18 September 2017–18 December 2017, which refer to one the following:*

*David Davis  
The 'Withdrawal' Agreement  
The exit payment/divorce payment/'Brexit bill'  
Michel Barnier*

*2) A copy of all correspondence (including emails) sent by Oliver Robbins, between 16 April 2018–29 June 2018, which refer to one the following:*

*David Davis  
The UK-EU 'future relationship'  
The 'Chequers' proposal  
Dominic Raab  
Stewart Jackson  
The EU single market  
Freedom of movement  
Michel Barnier*

*Please be so kind as to confirm you have received my email."*

I must inform you that the Cabinet Office is unable to comply with your request. Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act relieves public authorities of the duty to comply with a request for information if the cost of dealing with it would exceed the appropriate limit. The appropriate limit has been specified in regulations and for central Government this is set at £600. This represents the estimated cost of one person spending 31/2 working days in determining whether the Department holds the information, and locating, retrieving and extracting it.

The reason that your request exceeds the cost limit is that relevant information could be contained in very many files. Searching all those that might contain relevant information to determine whether the Cabinet Office holds any information relevant to your request will exceed the appropriate limit laid down in the regulations. If you wish, you may refine your request in order to bring the cost of determining whether the Cabinet Office holds relevant information, locating, retrieving and extracting it, below the appropriate limit. Bearing in mind that our records are classified by broad subject areas, I consider that we will not be able to carry out a search for information unless you can relate the information you seek to a definite context such as a particular policy or region or a notable event or initiative. I must also inform you that if the Cabinet Office does hold any information, it may be subject to one or more of the exemptions contained in the Freedom of Information Act.

If you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request or wish to request an internal review, you should write to:

Sharon Carter  
Cabinet Office  
70 Whitehall  
London  
SW1A 2AS

email: [foi-team@cabinetoffice.gov.uk](mailto: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 your internal review, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. Generally, the Commissioner cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the complaints procedure provided by Cabinet Office. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

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

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'A. B. Smith', written diagonally across the page.

**FOI Team**  
**Cabinet Office**