



Home Office

Office for Security and Counter-
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xxxx Smith
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FOI: 48831
26 June 2018

Dear xxxx Smith,

Thank you for your e-mail request of 30 May 2018, in which you ask:

1. *Your research ethics procedures and approval process*
2. *Whether your research ethics procedures include gaining informed consent from all participants.*
3. *Whether you ever conduct covert research on law abiding UK citizens.*
4. *Please outline the different areas your unit has researched (limited to 2017).*

Your request is being handled as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (the Act).

We are considering your request. Although the Act carries a presumption in favour of disclosure, it provides exemptions which may be used to withhold information in specified circumstances. Some of these exemptions, referred to as 'qualified exemptions', are subject to a public interest test. This test is used to balance the public interest in disclosure against the public interest in favour of withholding the information. The Act allows us to exceed the 20 working day response target where we need to consider the public interest test fully.

The information which you have requested is being considered under the exemptions at Sections 24, 35, 36, and 43 of the Act. These are qualified exemptions and to consider the public interest test fully we need to extend the 20 working day response period.

We now aim to provide you with a full response before or on 25 July 2018.

Yours sincerely

Freedom of Information
Home Office