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23 August 2018

Dear Ms Smith,

**Freedom of Information request (our reference: 48831)**

I am writing in response to your e-mail dated 16 August, which has been handled as an internal review (Time Complaint) in respect of your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) dated 30 May.

I have now completed the review; Section 10(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) requires that the Home Office should have informed you whether the information you requested was held, and if appropriate, have provided it to you within 20 working days of your request being received. Section 10(3) of the FOIA requires that the Home Office should have informed you within this 20 working day period if additional time was required to consider the public interest considerations affecting the information you have requested. Our records show that the latter of these actions was carried out in this instance; however even with this amended deadline, the policy area were unable to respond in time.

I would like to apologise on behalf of the Department for the length of time which it is taking to provide you with a substantive response to your request. The policy area has been informed of your concerns and I can confirm that your request remains under active consideration. Whilst I cannot provide a precise date as to when you will receive a response, the policy area will reply just as soon as it possibly can.

I can understand your frustration over the continuing delay; your patience is very much appreciated.

Yours sincerely,

**P. Zebedee**  
**Information Rights Team**