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28 November 2018

Dear Mr Johnson

**Freedom of Information request reference: 51227**

Thank you for your e-mail of 28 November, about the deadline for your recent Freedom of Information request.

Section 10 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) concerns the time for compliance, which is twenty working days following the date of receipt. Section 10(6) states:

“the date of receipt” means—

- (a) the day on which the public authority receives the request for information, or
- (b) if later, the day on which it receives the information referred to in section 1(3);

Section 1(3) of the FOIA applies when an authority requires clarification of a request. It states:

Where a public authority—

- (a) reasonably requires further information in order to identify and locate the information requested, and
  - (b) has informed the applicant of that requirement,
- the authority is not obliged to comply with subsection (1) unless it is supplied with that further information.

We have asked for clarification of your request twice and received your last clarification on 22 November, which is treated as the date of receipt of your FOI request, reference 51227.

Section 10(6) of the FOIA goes on to define working days:

“working day” means any day other than a Saturday, a Sunday, Christmas Day, Good Friday or a day which is a bank holiday under the Banking and Financial Dealings Act 1971 in any part of the United Kingdom.

This means that St Andrew's Day is not considered a working day by the FOIA. The deadline of 21 December is correct.

Yours sincerely,

**B Wheeler**

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