



Department for Transport

Andy Gregory
Head of Private Office
Department for Transport
5/13 Great Minster House
33 Horseferry Road
LONDON
SW1P 4DR

Web Site: www.gov.uk
Our Ref: F0017269

15th May 2019

By email: request-563409-6eb9ac33@whatdotheyknow.com

Dear Ms Partridge,

Thank you for your email of 21 March, in which you requested the following information:

“Please kindly provide the Secretary or Minister of State's diary for the date of 19th December 2018.”

The information you have requested is held by the Department. Some of the information is being withheld under Section 24(1) of the FOI Act, the public interest test and full text of the exemption is attached at annex A. The Secretary of State for Transport's diary on the 19th December 2018 was as follows:

09:00 - 09:30 First Group
10:00 - 10:45 Team Meeting
10:45 - 11:15 Grids
11:30 - 12:00 Travel
11:30 - 14:00 Deferred Divisions
12:00 - 12:45 PMQs
13:00 - 13:30 Lunch with Nusrat Ghani
13:30 - 15:00 EU Exit Pre-Christmas Update
15:00 - 15:45 Keith Williams, Rail Review Update
16:00 - 16:30 Jasmine Whitbread, CEO, London First
16:45 - 17:00 Travel
17:00 - 18:00 *withheld under section 24*
18:00 - 18:15 Travel
18:30 - 19:30 Political Ministerial Meeting

If you have any queries about this letter, please contact me. Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

If you are unhappy with the way the Department has handled your request or with the decisions made in relation to your request you may complain within two calendar months of the date of this letter by writing to the Department's FOI Advice Team at:

Zone D/04
Ashdown House
Sedlescombe Road North
Hastings
East Sussex TN37 7GA
E-mail: FOI-Advice-Team-DFT@dft.gsi.gov.uk

Please send or copy any follow-up correspondence relating to this request to the FOI Advice Team to help ensure that it receives prompt attention. Please also remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

Please see attached details of DfT's complaints procedure and your right to complain to the Information Commissioner.

Yours sincerely

Andy Gregory

Your right to complain to DfT and the Information Commissioner

You have the right to complain within 40 working days of the date of this letter about the way in which your request for information was handled and/or about the decision not to disclose all or part of the information requested. In addition a complaint can be made that DfT has not complied with its publication scheme.

Your complaint will be acknowledged and you will be advised of a target date by which to expect a response. Initially your complaint will be re-considered by the official who dealt with your request for information. If, after careful consideration, that official decides that his/her decision was correct, your complaint will automatically be referred to a senior independent official who will conduct a further review. You will be advised of the outcome of your complaint and if a decision is taken to disclose information originally withheld this will be done as soon as possible.

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

Annex A

S24 Public interest test

Factors in favour of disclosure:

There is a public interest in open and transparent government.

Factors in favour of withholding:

Releasing details of meetings where matters of National Security are discussed is not in the public interest.

Decision

Although there is a public interest in Government being open and transparent, it would not be in the public interest to release details of meetings where National Security is being discussed. The information is withheld under S24.

Full text of exemption

24

National security.

- (1) Information which does not fall within section 23(1) is exempt information if exemption from section 1(1)(b) is required for the purpose of safeguarding national security.
- (2) The duty to confirm or deny does not arise if, or to the extent that, exemption from section 1(1)(a) is required for the purpose of safeguarding national security.
- (3) A certificate signed by a Minister of the Crown certifying that exemption from section 1(1)(b), or from section 1(1)(a) and (b), is, or at any time was, required for the purpose of safeguarding national security shall, subject to section 60, be conclusive evidence of that fact.
- (4) A certificate under subsection (3) may identify the information to which it applies by means of a general description and may be expressed to have prospective effect.