



HM Passport  
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George Tsigarides  
[request-587772-23819672@whatdotheyknow.com](mailto:request-587772-23819672@whatdotheyknow.com)

Reference: FOICR 54602/19

15 August 2019

Dear Mr Tsigarides

## FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST

Thank you for your email of 18 July in which you ask for information from the General Register Office (GRO) part of Her Majesty's Passport Office regarding the Data Controller, Trustee and Account holders.

Your request has been handled as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

**1. The Name and contact details of your Data Controller. (1. The Data Controller is the term used by the Information Commissioner's Office; and your Data Protection Officer appears to be your Data Controller.)**

I confirm that the GRO holds the information which you have requested. However, we believe that the information is already reasonably accessible to you. It can be found at the Information Commissioner's Office website at the following link  
<https://ico.org.uk/ESDWebPages/Entry/Z1272134>

**2. Who is your Security Trustee. (We understand that you have a Trustee, or a Security Trustee; and we are requesting their Name and contact details.) (Here is what we understand a Trustee is:  
One who, having legal title to property, holds it in trust for the benefit of another and owes a fiduciary duty to that beneficiary.**

This information is not held as the GRO is not a Trust and therefore does not have a Trustee.

**3. Who are the beneficiaries of the accounts you old. (We are requesting confirmation of who the beneficiaries are of the accounts you hold; i.e. the registered owners or the account holders.)**

I confirm that the GRO holds the information which you have requested. However, we believe that the information is already reasonably accessible to you. Any member of the public can open an account with GRO to order certificates online as explained on the GRO website at the link below:

[https://www.gro.gov.uk/gro/content/certificates/most\\_customers\\_want\\_to\\_know.asp#GettingStarted1](https://www.gro.gov.uk/gro/content/certificates/most_customers_want_to_know.asp#GettingStarted1)

Section 21(1) of the FOIA exempts the GRO from having to provide you with this information, because it is already reasonably accessible to you. If you have any difficulties in accessing this information at the source which I have indicated, please contact me again.

For your information, the GRO oversees civil registration in England and Wales. The GRO holds records of all births, deaths, marriages, civil partnerships, stillbirths and adoptions in England and Wales. The GRO maintains the national archive of births, deaths and marriages dating back to 1837.

For further information about the services that the GRO offers please use the attached link <https://www.gro.gov.uk/gro/content/>.

For records in Scotland, contact the [National Records of Scotland](#).

For records in Northern Ireland, contact the [General Register Office for Northern Ireland](#).

If you are dissatisfied with this response you may request an independent internal review of our handling of your request by submitting a complaint within two months to [foirequests@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:foirequests@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk), quoting reference 54602. If you ask for an internal review, it would be helpful if you could say why you are dissatisfied with the response.

As part of any internal review the Department's handling of your information request would be reassessed by staff who were not involved in providing you with this response. If you were to remain dissatisfied after an internal review, you would have a right of complaint to the Information Commissioner as established by section 50 of the FOIA.

Yours sincerely

**D Hjej-Andaloussi**  
**Freedom of Information Team**