

24 May 2021

Dear [REDACTED]

REFERENCE: FOI/21/69

Thank you for your email dated 15 April in which you requested a copy of the following information from the Northern Ireland Office:

1. Please disclose how many senior civil servants (SCS grade) in your department were employed by another company/body whilst in the employment of the civil service in each of the following years:

- a. 2015
- b. 2016
- c. 2017
- d. 2018
- e. 2019
- f. 2020
- g. 2021 to date

2. Please disclose in how many of the cases identified in the response to Q1a-g was the secondary employer Greensill Capital.

3. In each case identified in the response to Q1a-g, please provide the rank of the senior civil servant (Deputy Director, Director General etc) and the name of the company/body by whom they were also employed.

4. Please disclose how many violations of civil service conflict of interest regulations in relation to such employments' (either Civil Service Code violations or breaches of departmental rules on conflict of interest) by senior civil servants (SCS grade) in your department were recorded in each of the years:



- a. 2015
- b. 2016
- c. 2017
- d. 2018
- e. 2019
- f. 2020
- g. 2021 to date

5. Please disclose the register of conflicts of interest in your department for senior civil servants (SCS grade) as of 1st January in the following years:

- a. 2015
- b. 2016
- c. 2017
- d. 2018
- e. 2019
- f. 2020
- g. 2021

I can confirm that the Northern Ireland Office holds the information that you have asked for.

For question 1, we have interpreted employment by another company/body to mean any outside activity that is remunerated. There were no declarations of other employment from officials in the SCS grades for the period 2015-2021.

For question 2, there were no cases identified.

For question 3, there were no cases identified.

For question 4, there were no violations recorded.

For question 5, the Northern Ireland Office holds a register of interests for its board members, made available on request. For non-board members at SCS grade, the information you have requested is being withheld because it is exempt under section 40(2) of the Freedom of Information Act. Section 40(2) exempts personal information from disclosure if that information relates to someone other than the applicant, and if disclosure of that information would, amongst other things, contravene one of the data protection principles set out in Article 5 of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). In this case, I believe



disclosure would contravene data protection principle (a), which provides that personal data must be processed fairly and lawfully. Section 40(2) is an absolute exemption and the Northern Ireland Office is not obliged to consider whether the public interest favours disclosing the information.

For board members at SCS grade, the register of interests is as follows:

**Northern Ireland Office Register of Interests**

**2015/16**

Name	Role	Body	Position Held
Colin Perry	Director	Dasic Marine Ltd	Non Executive Director

**2016/17**

Name	Role	Body	Position Held
Colin Perry	Director	Dasic Marine Ltd	Non Executive

**2017/18**

Name	Role	Body	Position Held
Colin Perry	Director	Dasic Marine Ltd	Non Executive

**2018/19**

No SCS interests declared at board level.



**2019/20**

Name	Role	Body	Position Held
Madeleine Alessandri	PUS	Civil Service Retirement Fellowship	Chair

**2020/21**

Name	Role	Body	Position Held
Madeleine Alessandri	PUS	Civil Service Retirement Fellowship	Chair

If you believe this reply is not in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000 you may ask for an internal review within two calendar months of the date of this letter. If you request a review you should do so in writing stating the reasons. If following an internal review you were to remain dissatisfied you may make a complaint to the Information Commissioner and ask him to investigate whether the NIO has complied with the terms of the FOIA. You can write to the Information Commissioner at:

Information Commissioner  
Wycliffe House  
Water Lane  
Wilmslow  
Cheshire  
SK9 5AF

The Commissioner will not investigate a complaint unless an internal review procedure has been carried out. Further details on the role of the Information Commissioner and the handling of appeals can be found at: [www.ico.org.uk](http://www.ico.org.uk)

If you wish to discuss this please contact the Freedom of Information Team using the contact details provided at the top of the first page. Please remember to quote your reference in any correspondence.

Yours sincerely

**Freedom of Information Team**

