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FOI Reference: 43087

Date: 31 March 2017

Dear Mr Singh

Thank you for your e-mail of 2 March, in which you ask to be supplied with guidance and information in relation to the Immigration (European Economic Area) Regulations 2016 (<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukSI/2016/1052/made>) which replaced the Immigration (European Economic Area) Regulations 2006.

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

We are considering your request. Although the Act carries a presumption in favour of disclosure, it provides exemptions which may be used to withhold information in specified circumstances. Some of these exemptions, referred to as 'qualified exemptions', are subject to a public interest test. This test is used to balance the public interest in disclosure against the public interest in favour of withholding the information. The Act allows us to exceed the 20 working day response target where we need to consider the public interest test fully.

The information which you have requested is being considered under the exemption in section 31 of the Act, which relates to law enforcement. This is a qualified exemption and to consider the public interest test fully we need to extend the 20 working day response period. We now aim to let you have a full response by 3 May 2017.

Yours sincerely

L. Cole

Border, Immigration & Citizenship System Policy and Strategy Group