

Freedom of Information Central Correspondence Team Central Operations PO Box 3468 Sheffield S3 8WA

David Hugkulstone request-614125-da0e50b1@whatdotheyknow.com

Email:

FOIRequests@homeoffice.gov.uk

www.gov.uk/ukvi

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19 November 2019

Dear Mr Hugkulstone

Thank you for your e-mail of 22 October, in which you ask for a variety of information regarding representations made to Sopra Steria. Your request is being handled as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

We are considering your request. Although the FOI 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 FOI 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 exemption section 43 –of the FOI Act, which relates to Commercial Confidentiality. 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 17 December 2019.

Yours sincerely

C. Walls Central Operations



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