



Ministry of Housing,
Communities &
Local Government

**Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local
Government**

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Dave Orr
Via email

Date: **16 October 2018**

Dear Mr Orr

Freedom of Information Act 2000 - 3899805

Thank you for your request for information which was received on 13 September 2018 and which you clarified on 18 September 2018.

Your clarified request was:

"For the date range 1st April 2018 to 18/09/18

Q1. Please disclose all emails within the requested date range from Somerset County Council and the MHCLG (Ministers/offices or the GRAD team) regarding proposals for unitary reorganisation in Somerset and all MHCLG replies?

Q2a. Please disclose all emails within the requested date range from the Somerset MP for Taunton Deane Rebecca Pow and the MHCLG (Ministers/offices or the GRAD team)) regarding proposals for unitary reorganisation in Somerset and all MHCLG replies?

Q2b. Please disclose all emails within the requested date range from the Somerset MP for Bridgwater and West Somerset, Ian Liddell-Grainger, and the MHCLG (Ministers/offices or the GRAD team)) regarding proposals for unitary reorganisation in Somerset and all MHCLG replies?"

Your request has been considered under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

I can confirm that information in scope of Q1 and Q2b of this request is held by the Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government and we are able to provide you with all of it. The information provided is listed below and I have attached copies of the documents in Appendices 1-11.

No information is held regarding Q2a – emails within the requested date range from the Somerset MP for Taunton Deane, Rebecca Pow, and MHCLG (Ministers/offices or the GRAD team) regarding proposals for unitary reorganisation in Somerset and all MHCLG replies.

Some information has been redacted from the attached documents because it is exempt from disclosure under section 40(2) of the FOI Act as it is personal, about another individual and, as that person could not reasonably expect that his or her personal information would be disclosed, doing so would breach the Data Protection Act.

This information consists of the names and contact details of junior staff who have a reasonable expectation that their information will not be disclosed into the public domain. It also includes the phone numbers and email addresses for Rishi Sunak MP, Councillor David Fothergill, Councillor Harvey and Ian Liddell-Grainger MP, as well as the signatures of Cllr Fothergill and Cllr Siggs.

Documents in scope

- 01** Email from Rishi Sunak MP's office to Councillor Fothergill 25/05/18
- 02** Letter from Cllr Fothergill to the Secretary of State 03/05/18 (attached to item 01)
- 03** Email chain containing emails between Councillor Fothergill's office and Rishi Sunak's office 25/05/18-06/06/18. 2 attachments have been removed from the final email in this chain (06/06/18 09:43) because they have been deemed to be out of scope. They consist of two pdf maps – one is a map of the whole Parliamentary estate and one is a map of Portcullis House
- 04** Email from Councillor Fothergill to Rishi Sunak 16/07/18
- 05** Letter from Cllr Fothergill to Rishi Sunak 12/07/18 (attached to item 04 above)
- 06** Email from Cllr Siggs to Rishi Sunak 24/08/18
- 07** Letter from Rishi Sunak to Cllr Siggs and Cllr Fothergill 26/07/18 (attached to item 06 above)
- 08** Letter from Cllr Fothergill and Cllr Siggs to Rishi Sunak 24/08/18 (attached to item 06 above)
- 09** Email from Ian Liddell-Grainger MP to Rishi Sunak 13/07/18
- 10** Letter from Ian Liddell-Grainger MP to Rishi Sunak 13/07/18 (attached to item 09)
- 11** Letter from Rishi Sunak to Ian Liddell-Grainger MP 23/07/18

Complaints procedure

If you are unhappy with this response, we will review it and report back to you. (This is called an internal review.) If you want us to do this, let us know by return email within two months of receiving this response. You can also ask by letter addressed to:

Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government
Knowledge and Information Access Team
1st Floor NW, Fry Building
2 Marsham Street
London, SW1P 4DF

If you are unhappy with the outcome of this internal review, you can ask the independent Information Commissioner to investigate. The Information

Commissioner can be contacted at email address xxxxxxx@xxx.xxx.xx or use their online form at ico.org.uk/concerns or call them on 0303 123 1113.

Yours faithfully

Knowledge and Information Access Team