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Mr Wayne Pearsall

Via e-mail: [request-255334-  
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1 April 2015

Dear Mr Pearsall

**Freedom of Information request (our reference 34477)**

I am writing in response to your e-mail of 20 March, in which you requested an internal review of our response to your Freedom of Information (FOI) requests of 24 February, about 'vexatious correspondence and complaints process' and 5 March, about 'criminal offence of swearing'.

I have re-considered your requests and the reasons why they were refused under section 14(1) of the FOI Act. My conclusion is that the response was correct.

In considering whether to refuse a request as vexatious we follow closely the Information Commissioner's guidance and the most recent case law, both of which you refer to in your e-mail of 20 March. We fully recognise that section 14(1) applies to a request, not to a requester. We handle requests on a case by case basis and we have in the past continued to respond in full to some requests which you have submitted while refusing others as vexatious. As you yourself have recognised, one of the primary considerations in deciding whether to apply section 14(1) is the emphasis on protecting public authority's resources from disproportionate use of the FOI Act.

If you remain dissatisfied with this response you may wish to pursue it with the Information Commissioner.

Yours sincerely

**Teresa Bastow**  
**Information Access Team**