

Performance and Risk 020 7035 4848 Directorate (switchboard) 2 Marsham Street

London SW1P 4DF <u>www.gov.uk</u>

Jamie Bell request-397437-28e0913a@whatdotheyknow.com

24 August 2017

Dear Jamie Bell,

Freedom of Information request (our reference: 43336)

I am writing in response to your e-mail dated 08 August 2017, in which you asked for an internal review of the time taken to respond to your Freedom of Information (FoI) request of 27 March 2017.

I have now completed the review. I confirm that I have not previously been involved in the handling of your request.

Section 10(1) of the Fol Act requires that the Home Office should have informed you whether the information you requested was held, and if appropriate, have provided it to you within 20 working days of your request being received. Section 10(3) of the Fol Act requires that the Home Office should have informed you within this 20 working day period if additional time was required to consider the public interest considerations affecting the information you have requested. Our records show that you were informed that an additional 20 working days was required to consider your request, but regrettably, (as you are aware) this extended date was not met either.

I would like to apologise on behalf of the Department for the length of time which it is taking to provide you with a substantive response to your request. The policy area has been informed of your concerns and I can confirm that your request remains under active consideration. Whilst I cannot provide an exact timescale for when you will receive our response, we will of course issue our reply just as soon as we are in a position to do so.

Your continued patience is much appreciated.

Yours sincerely,

199

P. Zebedee Information Rights Team