



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
Secretariat-General

Task Force for Strategic Issues related to the UK Referendum
Director General

Brussels, 3 June 2016

By registered letter with acknowledgment of receipt

Mr Chris Harris
56 Quai Rambaud
69002 Lyon
France

Advance copy by email:
ask+request-2819-1c8d5f59@asktheeu.org

**Subject: Your request for access to documents under Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001
Gestdem 2016/2180**

Dear Mr Harris,

We refer to your email of 23 April 2016, registered on 25 April 2016 under the above mentioned reference number, in which you make a request for access to documents.

You seek access to:

"any correspondence (memo, email, letter) between the British government and the European Commission regarding Brexit, namely the referendum on Britain's future within the European Union."

We apologise for the delay in replying which is due to a clerical error.

Having examined your request, I regret to inform you that your application cannot be granted, as disclosure is prevented by an exception to the right of access laid down in Article 4 of Regulation 1049/2001.

Any documents related to this request refer to an ongoing decision-making process. The disclosure of such documents would undermine the ongoing decision-making process.

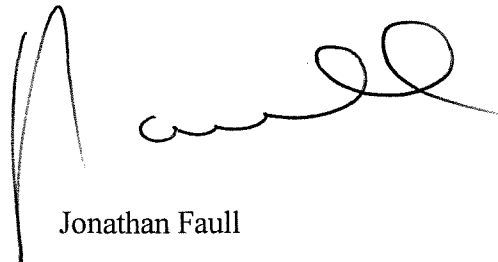
We have considered whether partial access could be granted to the documents requested. This is not possible because they are entirely covered by the exception.

We have examined whether an overriding public interest in disclosure exists but have not been able to identify such an interest.

In accordance with Article 7(2) of Regulation 1049/2001, you are entitled to make a confirmatory application requesting the Commission to review this position. Such a confirmatory application should be addressed within 15 working days upon receipt of this letter to the Secretary-General of the Commission at the following address:

European Commission
Secretary-General
Transparency unit SG-B-4
BERL 5/282
B-1049 Brussels
or by email to: sg-acc-doc@ec.europa.eu

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, stylized 'J' followed by a series of loops and a horizontal stroke.

Jonathan Faull