



Foreign &  
Commonwealth  
Office

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4 May 2018

Ms Vicki Cann

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**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 REF: 0370-18**

Thank you for your e-mail of 16 April 2018 in which you said:

*"Thank you for your letter dated 12 April. How many months of data can I request, in your estimation? Would 6 months fit within the 3 1/2 days limit? I look forward to your reply".*

This followed your e-mail of 28 March, in which you said:

*"With reference to the Freedom of Information Act, I would like to request the following information:*

*How many meetings have employees of the UK Permanent Representation to the EU had with representatives of companies, organisations and other stakeholders, during the last 12 months?*

*I would like to request a list of these meetings: who was present at the meeting, including the names of organisations/ lobbyists presents, as well as the date of the meeting, and the subject matter discussed".*

I explained in my response to your original e-mail that your request was widely-framed and that I estimated that it would take more than 3 ½ working days to locate, retrieve and extract this information, if indeed all the information requested was available. This would mean that Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act would apply.

I suggested that it may be that if you were to amend your requests, for example, by narrowing the scope to cover a specific sector, we may be able to help you (although I still couldn't guarantee that we would be able to assist you).

Narrowing the timescale but maintaining the scope of your request to cover all sectors would still require over 150 UKREP staff to search their agendas and for one or more colleagues to co-ordinate their returns. Therefore without specifying a particular sector or sectors you were interested in, even with only a short timescale I still estimate that it would take more than 3 ½ working days to locate, retrieve and extract this information.

I hope you are satisfied with this reply. However, if you wish to make a complaint or if you would like a review of our decision, please write to the FOI and DPA Team at the Foreign

and Commonwealth Office, Room K4.14, King Charles Street, London, SW1A 2AH. E-mail: [foi-dpa.imd@fco.gov.uk](mailto:foi-dpa.imd@fco.gov.uk). You have 40 working days to do so from the date of this letter.

If you are not content with the outcome of your complaint, you may then apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. Generally, the Information Commissioner cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the complaints procedure provided by the FCO. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF.

If you have any queries about this letter, please contact us. Please quote the reference number above in any future communications.

Yours sincerely,

Political Section, UKREP



We keep and use information in line with the Data Protection Act 1998. We may release this personal information to other UK government departments and public authorities.