



**EUROPEAN COMMISSION**

DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR FINANCIAL STABILITY, FINANCIAL SERVICES AND CAPITAL  
MARKETS UNION

General Affairs

**Policy planning and implementation, inter-institutional relations**

Brussels,  
FISMA.A.2/DB/

Mr Alex Cranston  
40 Bermondsey Street  
London  
United Kingdom

***By e-mail: ask+request-9241-  
492612f9@asktheeu.org***

Dear Mr Cranston,

**Subject: Your application for access to documents – GESTDEM 2021/1883**

We refer to your e-mail of 25 March 2021, in which you make a request for access to documents, registered on the same day under the above-mentioned reference.

*“Under the right of access to documents in the EU treaties, as developed in Regulation 1049/2001, I am requesting documents which contain the following information:*

*All documentation (including but not limited to all email correspondence, attendance lists, agendas, background papers, transcripts, recordings and minutes/notes) relating to the meeting listed below:*

*1. Between the Irish Farmers' Association (IFA) and Commissioner Mairead McGuinness, on the 12th March 2021.”*

After a search, two documents from the corresponding meeting have been identified as falling within the scope of your request. We enclose a copy of the documents requested. Full access is given to the first document (minutes of the meeting).

Having examined the second document requested under the provisions of Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001 regarding public access to documents, I have come to the conclusion that it may be only partially disclosed as it contains personal data, in particular names and contact details. Therefore, some parts of the document have been blanked out and their disclosure is prevented by exception to the right of access laid down in Article 4 of this Regulation, for data protection reasons.

Personal data can only be transmitted under specific exceptional conditions, including if *‘the recipient establishes that it is necessary to have the data transmitted for a specific purpose in the public interest.* According to Article 9(1)(b) of Regulation 2018/1725, the European Commission also only has to examine the further conditions for a lawful

processing of personal data if the recipient has established that it is necessary to have the data transmitted for a specific purpose in the public interest. In your request, you do not put forward any arguments to establish the necessity to have the data transmitted for a specific purpose in the public interest.

Notwithstanding the above, please note that there are reasons to assume that the legitimate interests of the data subjects concerned would be prejudiced by disclosure of the personal data reflected in the documents.

Consequently, I conclude that, pursuant to Article 4(1)(b) of Regulation 1049/2001, access cannot be granted to the personal data, as the need to obtain access thereto for a purpose in the public interest has not been substantiated and there is no reason to think that the legitimate interests of the individuals concerned would not be prejudiced by disclosure of the personal data concerned.

Should you disagree with the assessment that the redacted data are personal data that can only be disclosed if such disclosure is legitimate under the applicable rules on the protection of personal data, you are entitled, in accordance with Article 7(2) of Regulation 1049/2001, to submit 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 Secretariat-General of the Commission at the following address:

European Commission  
Secretariat-General  
Unit C.1. 'Transparency, Document Management and Access to Documents'  
BERL 7/076  
B-1049 Brussels, or by email to: [sg-acc-doc@ec.europa.eu](mailto:sg-acc-doc@ec.europa.eu)

Yours sincerely,

Dorota Kalina ZALIWSKA  
Head of Unit

Attachments (2): annex I minutes of the meeting, annex II letter IFA to the Commissioner dated 8 March 2021.