Reference: IC-213550-F0T0



Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) Decision notice

Date: 17 February 2023

Public Authority: Home Office

Address: 2 Marsham Street

London SW1P 4DF

Decision (including any steps ordered)

- 1. The complainant has requested minutes of a cross-government group.
- 2. The Commissioner's decision is that the above public authority is entitled to rely on section 23 of FOIA and does not need to take further steps.

Request and response

- 3. On 6 September 2022, the complainant wrote to the above public authority and requested copies of minutes of the National Security Liaison Group.
- 4. The above public authority responded on 24 October 2022. Its final position was to rely on section 23 of FOIA to withhold the information.

Reasons for decision

- The Commissioner recognises the complainant's interest in transparency. However, the broad reach of this exemption has been confirmed by FOIA caselaw.
- 6. For the same reasoning given in decision notice <u>IC-211046-V6R1</u>, the Commissioner is satisfied that section 23 of FOIA applies here.

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Right of appeal

7. Either party has the right to appeal against this decision notice to the First-tier Tribunal (Information Rights). Information about the appeals process may be obtained from:

First-tier Tribunal (Information Rights) GRC & GRP Tribunals, PO Box 9300, LEICESTER, LE1 8DJ

Tel: 0203 936 8963 Fax: 0870 739 5836

Email: grc@justice.gov.uk

Website: www.justice.gov.uk/tribunals/general-regulatory-

chamber

- 8. If you wish to appeal against a decision notice, you can obtain information on how to appeal along with the relevant forms from the Information Tribunal website.
- 9. Any Notice of Appeal should be served on the Tribunal within 28 (calendar) days of the date on which this decision notice is sent.

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Roger Cawthorne
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