


From: Conor Chapple sparkelectrical.sw@gmail.com 
Subject: : FOI2025/01700 - Request for Correction of FOI Records Due to Misrepresentation of Filing Date
Date: 20 March 2025 at 00:51
To: FOI foi@businessandtrade.gov.uk



Dear Information Rights Unit,

Given the **sensitive nature of my request**, which involves **data discrepancies presented during the inquiry**, I find it deeply **concerning and unacceptable** to proceed with further correspondence while DBT continues to **misrepresent the filing date of my FOI request**.

In good faith, I am formally requesting a correction to DBT's records regarding my Freedom of Information request (FOI2025/01700) due to this and other multiple procedural breaches, including:

1. DBT Misrepresented the Date of My FOI Request Submission

- My **FOI request was submitted on 15 February 2025 at 09:56**, as evidenced by my original email.
- However, DBT's response falsely claims my request was **received on 17 February 2025**, shifting the statutory deadline forward.
- This misrepresentation **incorrectly extends the response deadline** and creates the **false impression that DBT complied with FOIA's 20-working-day requirement**.
- The **actual deadline was 14 March 2025**, but DBT **only responded on 18 March 2025**, meaning they were **four days late** in responding.

2. DBT Failed to Respond to My Follow-Up for Assistance

- DBT acknowledged my **7 January 2025 FOI request (FOI2025/00115)**.
- However, when I **followed up for assistance**, DBT **never responded**.
- My follow-up was a **good faith attempt to ensure my FOI requests were not causing an undue burden**, but DBT **failed to engage** in their **duty under Section 16(1)** of FOIA.

3. DBT Omitted My Request from Annex A (Timeline of Communications)

- DBT's Annex A claims to document a **timeline of my communications** with the department.
- However, it **fails to include my 7 January 2025 follow-up for assistance**, raising concerns about the **completeness and accuracy** of their records.
- This omission is **not only misleading** but also suggests that DBT **deliberately excluded relevant correspondence**.

4. DBT Failed to Fulfill Its Duty Under Section 16(1) (Advice & Assistance)

- In their FOI response, DBT cited **Section 16(1)**, which legally requires them to **provide advice and assistance** if needed.
- Instead of engaging meaningfully, DBT **merely suggested I reduce correspondence or change the topic**, neither of which fulfills their statutory obligation.
- **Ignoring my follow-up request for guidance** further demonstrates DBT's **failure to provide meaningful assistance**.

Request for Action

- **A review of the incorrect filing of FOI2025/01700**, including a correction of the **wrong date recorded** for my request and an acknowledgment that DBT's response was **submitted late** as a result.
- **A acknowledgement of DBT's failure to respond to my request for guidance**, which was a legitimate attempt to clarify my request and ensure compliance with FOIA processes.

Many Thanks
Conor.



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Inform...13.pdf

From: Aconcerned Stakeholder aconcernedstakeholder@hotmail.com
Subject: Re: Request for information - ref FOI2025/00115
Date: 7 January 2025 at 17:28
To: Information Rights Unit foi@businessandtrade.gov.uk



Dear Information Rights Unit,

Thank you for acknowledging my request and for your continued assistance.

I hope my FOI requests are not causing any inconvenience. As these requests are part of an ongoing situation, I want to ensure I'm following the appropriate process without creating unnecessary burdens.

If there are any restrictions on the volume or frequency of FOI requests, or if there is a more efficient way to address these queries, please let me know. I'd be happy to adjust my approach to minimize inconvenience for your team.

Thank you again for your support, and I look forward to your response.

Kind regards,
Conor (Acorn) Chapple

From: Information Rights Unit <foi@businessandtrade.gov.uk>
Sent: 07 January 2025 17:19
To: aconcernedstakeholder@hotmail.com <aconcernedstakeholder@hotmail.com>
Subject: Request for information - ref FOI2025/00115

DBT ref: FOI2025/00115

Dear Conor Chapple

Thank you for your request for information which was received on 7th January. On behalf of the Department for Business and Trade (DBT) your request has been passed on to the appropriate official at DBT to process.

Your request is being considered under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and we will reply at the latest by 4th February.

If you have any queries about this email, please contact the Information Rights Unit. Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

Kind regards,

Information Rights Unit

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