

Ref No: FOI 12/0298

20th March 2012

Dear

Thank you for your email of 22nd February in which you made the following request:

1. Experienced Record Reviewers

I would be very grateful if you could let me know the names and contact details of the two 'Experienced Records Reviewers' so that I can contact them directly and ask for their advice. As you will have noticed, the documents from 1983 are likely to become public next year, 2013, under the 30 year rule. I would be eternally grateful for any advice they may be able to give me in terms of searching these documents and identifying anything that may be relevant to my research. I appreciate fully that I am asking for personal data and that this means that the Data Protection Act must be considered. I am only asking for the archivists' names if they consent to be identified and for the purpose of me making contact. I have no intention of publishing the names in any form and the personal data would not be processed by me in any way should it be shared.

2. Destroyed Energy Policy Files

In your internal review you discuss the destruction of documents from the Energy Policy files. You specifically mention 'the lists of those files that have been destroyed'. Would you kindly supply me with a copy of those lists?

3. Energy Technology Files

In your internal review you discuss the destruction of documents contained in the Energy Technology series. You state that 'only a few files remain and those that do have no mention of climate change'. I would be very grateful if you could supply copies of those remaining files or arrange that I can come and inspect those files. If you estimate that the time and cost of providing these files, or access to the files, would exceed the cost limit under FOIA then please provide a photocopy of the format and index pages or catalogue of the contents of each of the files. I would ask that this latter route is only taken if you deem that the information contained is not environmental information and therefore covered by the EIR. I am also presuming from elsewhere in the review that a list has been kept of those files that have been destroyed. I would be very grateful if you could provide those lists.

4. Nigel Lawson and the Chief Scientific Advisor

I very much appreciate the fact that you have sought expert advice about the likelihood of there being files in existence containing correspondence between Nigel Lawson and the Chief Scientific Advisor concerning the issue of climate change and fully understand that you have acted on that advice. I would be very grateful if you

could supply me with a list of any files containing correspondence between Nigel Lawson and the Chief Scientific Adviser of any kind which still exist, along with a list of files in this category which are known to have been destroyed. If possible, I would be grateful if you could also supply a copy of the front page of any surviving files and a copy of any index or catalogue of the contents of those files.

Although you do not specify a date, I have provided information relating to the period June 1983 – October 1989 as for your previous request, and based on the full text of your letter.

I have addressed each of your requests below

1. Experienced Record Reviewers

I have approached the reviewers with expertise in this area. They feel that it would not be appropriate to forward their personal details to you. If you haven't already done so, it may be worth approaching The National Archives (TNA) to see if they have an expert who may be able to provide you specialist advice.

2. Destroyed Energy Policy Files

I have attached all existing lists of review decisions relating to files in the ENP series for the period covered by the request.

- Document 1 – review decisions
- Document 2 – a packing list of records selected for permanent preservation at TNA followed by review recommendations and annotated confirmation by TNA
- Document 3 – review decisions
- Document 4 - the first tab lists documents already destroyed, the second a list of files which have been put aside for future review for historical interest and potential transfer to TNA
- Document 5 – review decisions
- Document 6 - files which are still to be reviewed. These were created in January 1982 and are likely to cover the period 1983 – 1989.

3. Energy Technology Files

I have also attached a list of surviving files from the ET series (document 7). Please let me know if you would like to see any of them and I would be happy to make appropriate arrangements. There are no surviving lists of files which have been destroyed. These decisions were recorded in docket books which have now also been destroyed.

4. Nigel Lawson and the Chief Scientific Advisor

Our reviewers have been unable to identify any files, or file series, which contain or are likely to contain correspondence between Nigel Lawson and the Chief Scientific Adviser.

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review. Internal review requests should be submitted within two months of the date of receipt of the response to your original letter and should be addressed to:

Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF

Yours sincerely,

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