

When dealing with FOIA requests the Home Office works on the basis of being 'applicant blind'. I can therefore confirm that no formal guidance has been produced specifically for handling FOIA requests from MPs. However all correspondence from MPs, including FOIA requests, are set a turn around deadline which is shorter than the 20 working days specified in the FOIA. The response to a request from an MP will also be signed off by a Minister of the Crown, whereas most FOIA requests are signed off by officials in the relevant policy area.

I should set out some caveats on the information that I am providing to you. The information has been collected from the Home Office's central FOIA 'Case Register' database. As noted because the FOIA is applicant blind it is not compulsory for officials to record on the database whether a request is from an MP. The search that we have conducted looked at the applicant's organisation and post-nominal initials i.e. if MP was written after the name. It is possible that in some circumstances this information was not recorded on the database and so I cannot guarantee that this list includes every request made by an MP to the Home Office.

It would also be useful to note that this list does not include all FOIA requests which have been subsequently re-classified as Subject Access Requests (SAR) under the Data Protection Act 1998. MPs are able to make a SARs on behalf of their constituents where the constituent has provided written consent.

With regards to the brief details of the request I have included the "FOI Question" field of the database. Depending upon the length of the request this may contain the exact wording or a summary of the request. I believe it should give you a good idea of the nature of the request.

Annex A

1) The number of requests received by the Home Office from Members of Parliament from January 2005 to present date, broken down by month. Brief details of each request received from MPs (e.g. title/summary)

| HO Reference | Date request received | FOI Question |
|--------------|-----------------------|--|
| 463 | 05-Jan-05 | Haase-Bennett case; early release of heroin dealers |
| 429 | 11-Jan-05 | Meetings in last 6 months re casino operators, foreign / domestic meeting dates |
| 433 | 21-Jan-05 | David Blunkett's continued occupancy of official residence |
| 357 | 21-Jan-05 | Home Office risk register for ID cards scheme |
| 462 | 11-Feb-05 | Documents destroyed Oct-Dec 04 |
| 584 | 11-Feb-05 | Michael Howard's actions |
| 590 | 18-Feb-05 | 13 requests in 1- Police Numbers, Derek Lewis, Parkhurst Prison, Government funding of construction projects and integrity of the British Crime Survey |
| 713 | 16-Mar-05 | LIDAR experiments carried out at Porton Down |
| 574 | 23-Mar-05 | Supplementary requests to request 42 on i) attendance requirements and ii) budget |
| 107 | 30-Mar-05 | Correspondence, minutes and telephone calls relating to the policing of the visit of the Chinese President Jiang Zemin in October 1999 |
| 852 | 15-Jun-05 | A copy of the Crime Reduction Review which was leaked to the Sunday Times and all supporting papers |
| 1299 | 06-Jul-05 | Request for information on the annual revenue raised by Work Permits UK from repeat work permits applications due to refusal. |
| 1313 | 12-Jul-05 | A full copy of the PITO End-to-End Review which was released in an edited version on 23 June 2005. |
| 1461 | 09-Aug-05 | Copies of all correspondence (January 2001 to January 2002) between the leader of the bid team (Martin Lomas) and his staff and the Prison Service/Home Office concerning requests for additional funding after the awarding of the contract to manage HMP Blak |
| 2041 | 15-Aug-05 | XX claims to nationality - also known as XX. Files supporting this - Aliens files? |
| 1886 | 12-Oct-05 | I am writing to request, in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000, all information relating to the discussions within Government and with external agencies about the use of phone-tap evidence in court as referenced on p28 of the Spin Doctor' |
| 1895 | 20-Oct-05 | I am writing regarding the Terrorism bill published this week. The front of the published bill quotes you as saying that in your view its provisions are compatible with the Convention rights under section 19(1)(a) of the Human Rights Act 1998. I would |
| 1988 | 03-Nov-05 | would like to obtain are the figures for decisions on applications for asylum from nationals of Serbia and Montenegro in the years 1998 - 1999, but specifically for those applicants from Kosovo. I would also appreciate figures for a sub-set of applicants |
| 2194 | 02-Dec-05 | Home Office spending in North Warwickshire Borough |
| 2353 | 07-Dec-05 | Request for breakdown of £32.7m charged by Annes Gate Property plc for development of 2 Marsham Street. |
| 2297 | 15-Dec-05 | In response to the Written Parliamentary Question (32892), answered on 5th December 2005 by Fiona Mactaggart MP. I would like to make a freedom of information request for the background briefing prepared for this question |
| 2589 | 07-Feb-06 | All communication between the Met Police and the Home Office before and after the demonstrations outside the Danish Embassy |
| 2875 | 10-Mar-06 | A copy of the research referred to in a PQ about the accuracy of data held by the Criminal record Bureau (Official Report 30 Nov 2005: Column 593W). Also a copy of the research referred to in the answer and why the report was commissioned in the first pla |
| 2922 | 16-Mar-06 | Would like full access to the file of Florrie Porter's murder some 62 years ago. |
| 3004 | 27-Mar-06 | How could the Home office have their accounts mistaken fby such an amount as£948 million . What investigations into theses matters has been instigated, what results found and what mechanisms have been put in place to prevent such serious errors occurring a |
| 3034 | 28-Mar-06 | Copy of the report from the Joint Home Office/Downing Stereet review of policing structures |
| 3105 | 31-Mar-06 | Questions about Anni Rainbow, CPS and USAF base policing. |

2) The number of page views for the Home Office website homepage, broken down by month January 2005 - December 2005

| Date | Number | Proportion |
|------------------------------|----------------|--------------|
| January 2005 | 454780 | 0.081 |
| February 2005 | 418830 | 0.075 |
| March 2005 | 458508 | 0.082 |
| April 2005 | 426741 | 0.076 |
| May 2005 | 382622 | 0.068 |
| June 2005 | 378656 | 0.067 |
| July 2005 | 402468 | 0.072 |
| August 2005 | 404557 | 0.072 |
| September 2005 | 392782 | 0.07 |
| October 2005 | 1015108 | 0.181 |
| November 2005 | 638574 | 0.114 |
| December 2005 | 241445 | 0.043 |
| Total | 5615071 | 1 |
| <i>Maximum October 2005</i> | <i>1015108</i> | <i>0.181</i> |
| <i>Minimum December 2005</i> | <i>241445</i> | <i>0.043</i> |
| <i>Average</i> | <i>467923</i> | |