



Treasury Solicitor's Department

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Our reference: BVFOI/330/13 re Paula Barnby

Freedom of Information Act 2000 Request

You asked for the following information from the Treasury Solicitor's Department ("the Department"):

The deceased's date of birth, place of birth and family. Details about her family members, where she resided and the date when and where she arrived in Britain.

Your request will be dealt with by the Bona Vacantia Division ("the Division") under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

The Division holds some of the information that you have requested.

Information held on file shows that the deceased lived in Hamburg in 1936, entered the UK at Grimsby on 23 July 1937 and lived in Liverpool and Grasmere, Cumbria.

Further information held shows that the deceased's mother was Margarete Wieben and her father may have been Joseph Offerman. The deceased's mother is thought to have been from the Schleswig-Holstein area of Germany and the family lived in Lingn and Rendsburgh, also in Germany, before moving to Hamburg in 1936.

Information held suggests the deceased had two sisters, one of whom had a son who may have lived in Berlin, and two brothers. The file suggests that the deceased also had a cousin (who had two sons), two uncles and an aunt (one of whom had a son). The file also suggests that the deceased may have had a cousin who lived in Hamburg.

The Division holds information relating to the maiden name and the date and place of the birth of the deceased. This information can be found on the unclaimed estates list which is available at <http://www.bonavacantia.gov.uk/output/advertised-estates.aspx>. The information is reasonably accessible to you by other means and is therefore exempt from disclosure under section 21 of the Act. This exemption confers absolute exemption from the requirement to provide information pursuant to section 1(1)(b) of the Act.

Some of the information you have requested is exempt from disclosure under section 40(2) of the Act. The information is exempt from disclosure because it constitutes the personal data of living individuals as defined in section 1(1) of the Data Protection Act 1998. Disclosure of the information would be in breach of the data protection principles set out in Schedule 1 of that Act. In particular, disclosure of the information would contravene the first data protection principle, which requires that personal data be processed fairly and lawfully.

