

FOI Release

Information released under the Freedom of Information Act

Title: Pubs consultation April 2013 — correspondence and meetings

Date of release: 7 August 2013

Information request

Details of correspondence and minutes of any meetings between BIS officials and representatives or partners of the Fair Deal for Your Local campaign group or pub companies in the year to 27 June 2013.

Details of meetings between Vince Cable or Jo Swinson and representatives or partners of the Fair Deal for Your Local campaign group in the year to 27 June 2013.

A list of occasions when BIS officials, Vince Cable or Jo Swinson met representatives from the Federation of Small Business or the Forum of Private Business to talk about pubs and the pubs sector.

Information released

This request is one of a number of FOI requests relating to Pubs that BIS has received. Many of the documents provided as an answer to this request are also relevant to the others. Therefore, rather than repeat the same documents many times, documents relevant to all these Pubs-related FOI requests have been listed together in a single file of 149 documents. The ones relevant to this request are numbered 2-17, 67 and 94.

The large majority of these documents either have no redactions or only redactions made under s.40 of the FOI Act relating to withholding of certain personal information. However, some documents have been redacted either wholly or in part because of one or more of the other exemptions provided by the Act. Ten documents in the attached file (nos 28-37) contain redactions under one or more of these other exemptions. In each case the document shows clearly where text has been redacted and which exemption is being used.

The exemptions that have been used are as follows:

- * s.21 exempts information from the right of access if that information is reasonably accessible to the applicant by other means.
- * s.35 covers information that 'relates to' -
 - (1)(a)— formulation or development of government policy,
 - (1)(b) — ministerial communications,
- * s.36 exempts information if disclosure would prejudice -
 - (2)(a)(i) the maintenance of the convention of the collective responsibility of Ministers of the Crown, or
 - (2)(b) inhibit i) the free and frank provision of advice, or ii) the free and frank exchange of views for the purposes of deliberation;
- * s.40 exempts the release of personal data where disclosure would breach the Data Protection Act 1998.
- * s.41 provides an exemption if release would constitute an actionable breach of confidence.
- * s.43(2) exempts information, disclosure of which would be likely to prejudice the commercial interests of any person.