



Department
of Energy &
Climate Change

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**Department of Energy & Climate
Change**

3 Whitehall Place,
London SW1A 2AW
www.decc.gov.uk

Our ref: FOI2014/28114

19 January 2015

Dear **Redacted**

Re: Freedom of Information Request

Thank you for your email of 9 December in which you asked for the following:

"1) A list of all smartphone applications ('apps') downloaded onto ministerial mobile phones and/or tablets used by the following people, broken down by the phone's owner/user, obtained using the method explained below, in whichever format is easiest to supply:

*Edward Davey MP
Amber Rudd MP
Baroness Verma*

Method to obtain app lists by device:

(A) Apple iPhone/iPad

1. Tap the 'App Store' icon on the iPhone/iPad in question
2. Tap on the 'Purchased' button on the grey bar at the bottom of the screen, fourth from the left
3. A list of all downloaded apps onto the device will be displayed, which can be transcribed

(B) Android phones/tablets

1. Open the Google Play Store app on the phone/tablet in question
2. Tap the Menu icon (three horizontal stacked lines), then tap 'My Apps', then tap 'All'
3. A list of all downloaded apps onto the device will be displayed, which can be transcribed

(C) Windows phones/tablets

1. Visit Windows Phone/tablet's 'Purchase history' website at:
<https://www.windowsphone.com/en-us/my/purchase-history>
2. Sign in using the Microsoft account associated with the device



Department of Energy & Climate Change

3. A list of all downloaded apps onto the device will be displayed, which can be transcribed.”

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 ('the Act'), you have the right to:

- know whether we hold the information you require
- be provided with that information (subject to any exemptions under the Act which may apply).

I can confirm that the Department of Energy and Climate Change holds information in relation to your request. Under the Freedom of Information Act this information is exempt under section S.35 (1) (d) (the operation of any Ministerial private office) and is therefore being withheld. The exemption at section S.35 (1) (d) is a qualified exemption, and so it is necessary to consider whether the balance of the public interest favours the release of the material.

We recognise that there is a general public interest in the release of information. For example releasing the material promotes transparency around Ministers, and greater understanding of the operation of government. However, it is also in the public interest for Ministers and their private offices to be able to have the necessary tools to ensure efficient management of private offices and Ministerial workload.

I have therefore concluded that the balance of public interest lies in maintaining the exemptions at section 35(1)(d).

Appeals procedure

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 the Information Rights Unit (foi@decc.gsi.gov.uk).

Information Rights Unit (DECC Shared Service)
Department for Business, Innovation & Skills
1 Victoria Street
London
SW1H 0ET

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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