



# Treasury Solicitor's Department

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Our reference: BVFOI/007/15 re Various

## Freedom of Information Act 2000 Request

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

Please confirm the name and address of the claimant's representative in the following cases as I believe I represent beneficiaries entitled to share in the estates:

William Dowle BV2060687/1  
Marie Louise Hartley BV2078537/1  
Arthur Howe BV974554/1  
Terence William Hughes BV990914/1  
William Harold Newman BV2010835/1  
Frank Cecil Pepperell BV2010879/1

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

The Division holds all the information that you have requested.

The claimant dealt with the administration of the estate in person in these cases. Following your request, the Division has sought permission from each claimant to release their details. In each case, there was either no response from the claimant or the claimant refused permission.

I have therefore withheld the claimant's name and address as it is exempt from disclosure under section 40(2) of the Act. The information is exempt from disclosure because it constitutes the personal data of a living individual as defined in section 1(1) of the Data Protection Act 1998 and 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.

I have also withheld this information because it is exempt from disclosure under section 41 of the Act as the Division considers that the information was received in confidence, and that to reveal the information would constitute an actionable breach of the duty of confidence

In considering whether disclosure would be an actionable breach of confidence the Division has considered whether there is a public interest in disclosing the information that would outweigh the public interest in keeping the information confidential.

There is a strong public interest in keeping confidential information that has been disclosed in confidence, and in this case there is no specific reason in favour of disclosure of the information. Disclosure would not protect public safety, nor would it expose wrongdoing such as misfeasance, maladministration, negligence or other iniquity on the part of the Division. In this case the Division considers that the public interest in keeping the information confidential outweighs the public interest in disclosing it.

The Division has written to each claimant to inform them you represent other potentially entitled relatives and providing your contact details.

