



Our reference: BVFOI/312/15 re Pauline Bartlett

Freedom of Information Act 2000 Request

You asked for the following information from the Government Legal Department (“the Department”):

Where did the Treasury Solicitor obtain a birth date of 21 March 1942 as shown in the Registers when the estate was first listed?

Does the Government Legal Department hold a birth certificate for the deceased?

Does the Government Legal Department hold a marriage certificate for the deceased?

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.

The date of birth of 21 March 1942 was provided to the Division by the local authority who referred the estate to the Government Legal Department. This information can be found on the Bona Vacantia section of the gov.uk website, at <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistical-data-sets/unclaimed-estates-list>.

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.

On reviewing the file, the date was amended to reflect the information provided on the death certificate. The Division provides as much genealogical information as it holds on its files, subject to its obligations under the Data Protection Act and any other legal requirements to enable interest parties to obtain certificates for their own research. The list cannot be guaranteed to be complete and correct and no warranties are given or implied to that effect. Copies of the list held on other sources or provided by third parties other than the Treasury Solicitor cannot be guaranteed to be accurate or up-to-date.

The Division does not hold a birth or marriage certificate for the deceased.