

**Sent:** 16 October 2015 12:48

**Subject:** FOI Request Ref: 1001-15

Dear ...

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request. It has been assigned a unique reference number (above) and has been passed to the relevant section within the Foreign and Commonwealth Office to deal with. They will be in touch with you should your request need clarification.

We received your request on 15 October 2015 and will aim to respond within 20 working days, following the date of receipt.

Yours sincerely

**Sent:** 16 October 2015 16:21

**Subject:** FW: NEW FOI 1001-15 Travel of Edward Snowden

This is one for your team.

Thanks,

**Sent:** 16 October 2015 16:29

**Subject:** FW: NEW FOI 1001-15 Travel of Edward Snowden

... Can you take this forward. Thank you ...

**Sent:** 16 October 2015 17:05

**Subject:** FW: NEW FOI 1001-15 Travel of Edward Snowden

Heads up on this Snowden FOI from ...

**Sent:** 20 October 2015 12:31

**Subject:** FW: NEW FOI 1001-15 Travel of Edward Snowden

We've received the attached FOI on Edward Snowden, and I'm about to send round a request for everyone in IPD to check their P drives/PST files. I'll search our iRecords files and the shared area, but could I ask for your help with ... and paper files, please? (I assume we don't register much in paper files any more, but just in case!)

Thanks very much,

**Sent:** 20 October 2015 13:12

**Subject:** Action for COP 27th October: FOI on Edward Snowden

Dear all,

We've received the attached FOI request from ... asking for:

- A copy of any correspondence between the US and FCO sent in June or July 2013 discussing Snowden's whereabouts or discussing the possible extradition or return of Snowden from British territory.

- A copy of any internal FCO correspondence discussing Snowden's whereabouts, his prospective asylum request or the possibility that his plane might cross into British airspace during the same period.

Given his residence in Russia and Hong Kong, I've brought EECAD and China Department in on this request too. Would you mind going back to your departments and relevant posts, and collating any information they might have on Snowden dating from June – July 2013, please?

If you could send me your collected returns by **COP Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> October**, that would be very much appreciated.

**Sent:** 20 October 2015 13:14

**Subject:** Action for COP 27th October: FOI request on Edward Snowden

Dear all,

We've received an FOI request asking for:

- A copy of any correspondence between the US and FCO sent in June or July 2013 discussing Snowden's whereabouts or discussing the possible extradition or return of Snowden from British territory.
- A copy of any internal FCO correspondence discussing Snowden's whereabouts, his prospective asylum request or the possibility that his plane might cross into British airspace during the same period.

Could you search your P drives and Outlook (including PST files), at both Official Sensitive and Confidential, for anything relating to Edward Snowden dating from **1 June 2013 – 31 July 2013**, please? Please use Snowden as the search term.

I'll cover the S drive, iRecords, high classification and paper files separately.

Please reply to me by **close of play Tuesday 27th October** with the results of your searches. Nil returns are required.

Many thanks,

**Sent:** 20 October 2015 13:33

**Subject:** FW: NEW FOI 1001-15 Travel of Edward Snowdon

Happy to assist. When you send round the search criteria to all staff, I'll search ... Depending on how many results we get on ... you may need to create an account for yourself so that you can sit and sift through to pick out the material that you think is relevant to this FOI.

Can you confirm if a search is needed just for IPD or will this be an office-wide search?

In terms of the paper files, all of IPD central policy files from 2011 are stored in a cupboard which I can open up for you. There is a file list on ... but having had a quick skim through, there appears to be nothing titled Snowdon. We do have some more vague titles e.g. "FOI" which you may want to have a look at.

**Sent:** 20 October 2015 13:37  
**Subject:** RE: NEW FOI 1001-15 Travel of Edward Snowden

Super, thanks very much! It's just a search for IPD; I've emailed the OGLOs of NAD, EECAD and China Department to ask them to cover their depts/posts, so I assume it's down to them to look at their records etc.

**Sent:** 20 October 2015 13:35  
**Subject:** Action for COP 27th October: FOI request on Edward Snowden

Nothing from me as this predates my arrival in the department by a year.

**Sent:** 20 October 2015 13:43  
**Subject:** RE: Action for COP 27th October: FOI request on Edward Snowden

.... – nil return from me.

**Sent:** 20 October 2015 14:13  
**Subject:** RE: Action for COP 27th October: FOI request on Edward Snowden

I can confirm that I have found nothing in my P Drive or Outlook on Universal or Conf that matches the search criteria you have listed below.

**Sent:** 20 October 2015 14:17  
**Subject:** FW: Action for COP 27th October: FOI request on Edward Snowden

Nil from me for both tiers.

**Sent:** 20 October 2015 14:28  
**Subject:** RE: Action for COP 27th October: FOI request on Edward Snowden

Nil return from me

**Sent:** 20 October 2015 14:29  
**Subject:** RE: Action for COP 27th October: FOI request on Edward Snowden

I wasn't around then, so that's an easy nil return from me.  
Kind regards,

**Sent:** 20 October 2015 15:05  
**Subject:** FW: Action for COP 27th October: FOI request on Edward Snowden

Nil return

**Sent:** 20 October 2015 15:11  
**Subject:** RE: Action for COP 27th October: FOI request on Edward Snowden

Nil return from me I'm afraid ...  
Thanks,

**Sent:** 20 October 2015 15:17

**Subject:** RE: Action for COP 27th October: FOI request on Edward Snowden

Nil return from me – unless you include the Intelligence Forward Look for September and October.

**Sent:** 20 October 2015 15:37

**Subject:** RE: Action for COP 27th October: FOI request on Edward Snowden

Nil return from me ...

**Sent:** 20 October 2015 17:26

**Subject:** RE: Action for COP 27th October: FOI request on Edward Snowden

Nil return from me.

**Sent:** 21 October 2015 09:57

**Subject:** RE: Action for COP 27th October: FOI on Edward Snowden

Just to update you, I've passed this across to the Russia Team to conduct some searches and to get back to you by your deadline.

**Sent:** 21 October 2015 11:00

**Subject:** FW: Action for COP 27th October: FOI request on Edward Snowden

Is there any chance you could search the S drive for me, please? Sorry about this, it's just that I don't have access to e.g. the Op Lydd folders, and possibly other parts of the shared area too, and so it's been pointed out to me that I won't be able to make a full search. As he only wants documents from a narrow time period, I'm hoping it won't be too onerous. There's a folder 1001-15 in the FOI folder into which anything you find can go.

Many thanks,

**Sent:** 21 October 2015 12:18

**Subject:** RE: Action for COP 27th October: FOI request on Edward Snowden

Nil return from me

**Sent:** 21 October 2015 17:16

**Subject:** FW: Action for COP 27th October: FOI request on Edward Snowden

Nil return from me – that might sound hard to believe but I shifted all my emails to the Snowden file which was then transferred to your team.

**Sent:** 22 October 2015 10:52

**Subject:** RE: Action for COP 27th October: FOI request on Edward Snowden

It's a nil return on both Off Sen & Conf for me.

Regards

**Sent:** 23 October 2015 09:20

**Subject:** FW: Action for COP 27th October: FOI request on Edward Snowden

Nil return from me.

Best wishes

**Sent:** 26 October 2015 09:36

**Subject:** FW: Action for COP 27th October: FOI request on Edward Snowden

**Importance:** High

It's a nil return from me.

Regards

**Sent:** 26 October 2015 15:17

**Subject:** RE: Action for COP 27th October: FOI request on Edward Snowden

I can confirm I hold nothing on my systems. I take it last week that ... was looking on the shared d as per your other email, is that correct?

**Sent:** 27 October 2015 08:03

**Subject:** RE: FOI on Edward Snowden - grateful for a response by COP 27th October

It's a nil return from us.

**Sent:** 27 October 2015 10:12

**Subject:** RE: Action for COP 27th October: FOI request on Edward Snowden

Nil return from me.

Regards

**Sent:** 28 October 2015 11:43

**Subject:** FW: Action for COP 27th October: FOI request on Edward Snowden

All,

I don't appear to have had a response from you yet about this request. Nil returns are required. Could you get back to me with the results of your search by the end of today, please?

Apologies of course if you did send me something and I've missed it...

Many thanks,

**Sent:** 28 October 2015 11:44

**Subject:** RE: Action for COP 27th October: FOI request on Edward Snowden

... – Nil response from me.

**Sent:** 28 October 2015 11:49

**Subject:** RE: Action for COP 27th October: FOI request on Edward Snowden

Apologies.

I have completed a search of IPD Universal area on Firecrest on anything Snowden related prior to 31 July 2013, and the system has returned no documents.

**Sent:** 28 October 2015 11:53

**Subject:** RE: Action for COP 27th October: FOI request on Edward Snowden

Fantastic, thanks so much for doing that ... And I assume the same is true for the Conf and for your own P drive/Outlook?

**Sent:** 28 October 2015 12:02

**Subject:** RE: Action for COP 27th October: FOI request on Edward Snowden

Yes for P Drive/Outlook. I'll check Conf now.

**Sent:** 28 October 2015 12:18

**Subject:** RE: Action for COP 27th October: FOI request on Edward Snowden

Conf is clear also.

**Sent:** 28 October 2015 17:15

**Subject:** RE: Action for COP 27th October: FOI request on Edward Snowden

**Importance:** High

Apologies.

I confirm my 'P' drive and Outlook on both Univ and CONF are both a NIL return. However I completed a ... search too which has thrown up a few, not necessarily relevant but at which I believe you should review and decide whether they are.

Perhaps you could call/IM me Thu 29 Oct so I can take you to the one and only machine!

Many thanks,

**Sent:** 29 October 2015 11:02

**Subject:** FW: Action for COP 27th October: FOI request on Edward Snowden

Hi ... – did you find anything on this request in your P drive or Outlook?

Thanks,

**Sent:** 29 October 2015 11:06

**Subject:** RE: Action for COP 27th October: FOI request on Edward Snowden

Nothing from me.

**Sent:** 03 November 2015 10:10

**Subject:** RE: Action for COP 27th October: FOI request on Edward Snowden

Sorry for the delay, a nil return from me.

Thanks,

**Sent:** 23 October 2015 09:42

**Subject:** FW: FOI 1001-15 Travel of Edward Snowdon.

FYI so far we're a nil return. Today was our deadline for ... staff. I'll nudge (i.e. nag) them.

**Sent:** 23 October 2015 14:18

**Subject:** FOI 1001-15 Travel of Edward Snowdon.

Dear all,

Please see below and attached FOI request regarding Edward Snowden's travels in June/July 2013.

**Action required by all recipients before COP Friday 30 October.** As well as NAD and Washington I think we also need a quick search by: China Dept (as Snowden travelled to HK pre-Russia); EECAD (Russia Team – as Snowden ended up in Moscow); IPD ... hence why I've copied to ... Apologies if you're not the right contact – if not grateful if you could pass on.

Let me know if you disagree or think this should go anywhere else in the FCO.

Many thanks in advance,

**FOI 1001-15 Travel of Edward Snowden - action required by all recipients before COP Friday 30 October**

NAD has received the attached request under the Freedom of Information Act. The request is from ... and is as follows:

*I request a copy of all correspondence exchanged between the Foreign and Commonwealth Office ("FCO") and the United States Government ("the US") regarding the travels of former National Security Agency contractor Edward J. Snowden. I also request a copy of all other correspondence generated by the FCO regarding Edward J. Snowden's travels and any prospective asylum bid or overflight plans, including correspondence with other government bodies, such as the Office of the Prime Minister, the CAA, or the Home Office.*

*Specifically, I seek:*

*A copy of any correspondence between the US and FCO sent in June or July 2013 discussing Snowden's whereabouts or discussing the possible extradition or return of Snowden from British territory.*

*A copy of any internal FCO correspondence discussing Snowden's whereabouts, his prospective asylum request or the possibility that his plane might cross into British airspace during the same period.*

Your department has been identified as potentially holding information in scope for this FOI.

I realise that you might not have much information that comes under the scope of the request but I will be grateful if you perform a search nonetheless.

Please send all relevant electronic information to myself before close of play Friday 30 October (although the sooner the better). For any paper records, or if you have large quantities of information, please get in touch. **Nil returns are required.**

**Sent:** 23 October 2015 14:34

**Subject:** RE: FOI 1001-15 Travel of Edward Snowden.

All,

Further to this it has been brought to my attention that ... from IPD has already commissioned a search from China Department and EECAD (attached). Grateful if ... could therefore ignore my email. ... please just respond to ... request and deadlines as previously commissioned. She'll then collate and pass on to me to add NAD's and Washington's material.

Thanks,

**Sent:** 28 October 2015 14:35

**Subject:** RE: FOI 1001-15 Travel of Edward Snowden.

Just to follow up on this request – were you going to send material to me or directly to ... ? I'm going to be away on Friday, so depending on how long it takes to search all of Russia Team's files it may be easiest to send straight to ... Thanks,

**Sent:** 21 October 2015 00:48

**Subject:** FOI on Edward Snowden - grateful for a response by COP 27th October

Intelligence Policy Department has received the following FOI request on Edward Snowden which I would be grateful for your assistance on. It is from ... asking for:

- 'A copy of any correspondence between the US and FCO sent in June or July 2013 discussing Snowden's whereabouts or discussing the possible extradition or return of Snowden from British territory.
- A copy of any internal FCO correspondence discussing Snowden's whereabouts, his prospective asylum request or the possibility that his plane might cross into British airspace during the same period.'

Given Mr Snowden's residence in Hong Kong, I would be grateful if you could let me know if you hold any information which falls in scope of the above request from 1 June - 31 July 2013 (2 month period).

... – as Head of China Internal Team at the time, please let me know if you hold anything on this issue.

Grateful for a response by COP Tuesday 27 October.

Many thanks in advance,



**Sent:** 27 October 2015 13:56

**Subject:** FOI on Edward Snowden - grateful for a response by COP 27th October

Just to let you know that it is a nil return from China Department and BCG Hong Kong on this request.

... – thanks for coordinating the search in Hong Kong.

**Sent:** 29 October 2015 15:51

**Subject:** RE: FOI 1001-15 Travel of Edward Snowdon.

As you've seen, it was a nil return from China Department. I've not yet seen anything from EECAD, though I chased them yesterday, unless they replied directly to you? On our side, I've searched:

We've defined relevant quite broadly, and it may be that some of this falls outside the definition of internal FCO correspondence, but we thought it was better for you to see it than not.

**Sent:** 29 October 2015 15:56

**Subject:** RE: FOI 1001-15 Travel of Edward Snowdon.

Many thanks – that's great. I haven't heard from EECAD but will also chase them up if no return by tomorrow.

**Sent:** 11 November 2015 09:11

**Subject:** FOI 1001-15. Edward Snowden. Deadline 12 November

The deadline for this one has crept up on me, it needs to go to both ... so hope that we can PIT tomorrow? Let me know how it's going.

Thanks

**Sent:** 11 November 2015 11:00

**Subject:** RE: FOI 1001-15. Edward Snowden. Deadline 12 November

Thanks for the update, s27 looks like the only definite one for the PIT letter.

As long as we have a PIT letter tomorrow that's fine.

**Sent:** 11 November 2015 11:14

**Subject:** RE: FOI 1001-15. Edward Snowden. Deadline 12 November

That's very useful ... Thank you very much. We've just had a rather long Directorate meeting and I'm having to go into another one so this may be done tomorrow morning. Apologies for that!

**Sent:** 26 November 2015 11:53

**Subject:** FW: NEW FOI 1001-15 Travel of Edward Snowdon

Are your team dealing with this case? If so, is there any update as stakeholders are enquiring.

Thanks!

**Sent:** 26 November 2015 12:05

**Subject:** RE: NEW FOI 1001-15 Travel of Edward Snowden

No – not ours. Did ... team take it on following ... email of 16 October below?

**Sent:** 26 November 2015 12:38

**Subject:** RE: NEW FOI 1001-15 Travel of Edward Snowden

I have no idea, although I did email ... about this case last week and he seemed to think it might be one of yours. Mystery.

**Sent:** 26 November 2015 13:03

**Subject:** RE: NEW FOI 1001-15 Travel of Edward Snowden

Did it go to ... team in the end? Hope it didn't fall between the cracks.

**Sent:** 09 December 2015 08:28

**Subject:** FW: FOI 1001-15: Plan of action

The final response should be cleared through ... you will need to allow time for these clearances before any final deadline.

... to be aware, as OGLO, that this request has been reallocated to IPD from Americas Directorate.

I should be in the office every day until Christmas so let me know if you have any questions.

Regards

**Sent:** 10 December 2015 12:05

**Subject:** FW: 2nd PIT letter 1001-15 Cleared.

Sorry for not replying earlier, this can be sent anytime today.

Thanks

**Sent:** 06 January 2016 12:50

**Subject:** FOI request on travel of Edward Snowden

We've received an FOI request asking for:

- A copy of any correspondence between the US and FCO sent in June or July 2013 discussing Snowden's whereabouts or discussing the possible extradition or return of Snowden from British territory.
- A copy of any internal FCO correspondence discussing Snowden's whereabouts, his prospective asylum request or the possibility that his plane might cross into British airspace during the same period.

Many thanks,

**Sent:** 06 January 2016 14:51

**Subject:** FW: NEW FOI 1001-15 Travel of Edward Snowden

I couldn't get the template to save my tracked changes so I've attached another version. Only Head of Department clearance needed for a PIT letter.

Are you ok with sending this on 12<sup>th</sup>? ...

Regards

**Sent:** 06 January 2016 15:28

**Subject:** Snowden FOI - views by COP 11th January

We've received an FOI request asking for information on:

- A copy of any correspondence between the US and FCO sent in June or July 2013 discussing Snowden's whereabouts or discussing the possible extradition or return of Snowden from British territory.
- A copy of any internal FCO correspondence discussing Snowden's whereabouts, his prospective asylum request or the possibility that his plane might cross into British airspace during the same period.

Many thanks,

**Sent:** 07 January 2016 11:54

**Subject:** FW: NEW FOI 1001-15 Travel of Edward Snowden

Thanks very much for your help the other day with deciding whether a document was in scope of this request! The request is for:

- A copy of any correspondence between the US and FCO sent in June or July 2013 discussing Snowden's whereabouts or discussing the possible extradition or return of Snowden from British territory.
- A copy of any internal FCO correspondence discussing Snowden's whereabouts, his prospective asylum request or the possibility that his plane might cross into British airspace during the same period.

Many thanks,

**Sent:** 07 January 2016 14:59

**Subject:** FCO 1001-15 correspondence re travels of Edward Snowden

Colleagues

There was a query about this case this morning. We still have it. It has been pitted twice and is likely to be pitted again on 12 January. There is not yet a draft to circulate.

**Sent:** 07 January 2016 16:41

**Subject:** Snowden FOI - views by COP 11th January

Intelligence Policy Dept (IPD) has received an FOI request related to Edward Snowden asking for information on:

- A copy of any correspondence between the US and FCO sent in June or July 2013 discussing Snowden's whereabouts or discussing the possible extradition or return of Snowden from British territory.
- A copy of any internal FCO correspondence discussing Snowden's whereabouts, his prospective asylum request or the possibility that his plane might cross into British airspace during the same period.

Many thanks in advance,

**Sent:** Friday, January 08, 2016 03:39 PM

**Subject:** FOI request on Snowden

We've received an FOI request from ... asking for any correspondence relating to discussion of Snowden's whereabouts and prospective asylum request. ...

Thanks very much,

**Sent:** 08 January 2016 16:07

**Subject:** Re: FOI request on Snowden

I am not sure whether I have it or not (out of the office at the moment). Would you be able to send it to ... and put FAO ... in the subject or top of the text? That should get to me.

Thanks

**Sent:** 08 January 2016 16:52

**Subject:** RE: FOI request on Snowden

That's it, that's the one! Thanks very much for finding it, and yes please, if you could pass it to ... that would be a great help.

**Sent:** 13 January 2016 06:14

**Subject:** RE: FOI request on Snowden

When does ... get back to the office? Just asking so that I have an idea of when to expect a response (and don't start chasing too early!)

Thanks,

**Sent:** 13 January 2016 14:43

**Subject:** RE: FOI request on Snowden

... is in the office all week.

**Sent:** 12 January 2016 15:10

**Subject:** RE: Snowden FOI - views by COP 11th

Thanks very much for pulling everyone's comments on this together – have you heard anything from ... so far?

**Sent:** 12 January 2016 15:30

**Subject:** RE: Snowden FOI - views by COP 11th January

Will chase him again but call me tomorrow if you have not heard as working in parallel on urgent work for FS.

**Sent:** 15 January 2016 16:16

**Subject:** FW: Snowden FOI - views by COP 11th

... Please let me know if they are accepted.

Apologies in the delay for getting back to you.

Best regards,

**Sent:** 08 January 2016 14:39

**Subject:** Snowden FOI catch-up

Hi ... and ...

As ... suggested, I think it'd be helpful to have a quick meeting about this FOI, to see what we've found and ... and what more needs to be done before a final response can be pulled together. Let me know whether you're available at this time and then I'll book a room.

Many thanks,

**Sent:** 11 January 2016 13:31

**Subject:** RE: Declined: Snowden FOI catch-up

That does make things much easier, thanks, and in that case I agree that we don't need to meet. Unfortunately I can't seem to open the document you sent me – when I click on it, it says 'operation failed, an object cannot be found'. Would you mind sending it again, please?

Thanks very much,

**Sent:** 11 January 2016 14:21

**Subject:** RE: Declined: Snowden FOI catch-up

No problem. I have attached it again. Hope it works!

Kind regards,

**Sent:** 11 January 2016 14:28

**Subject:** RE: Declined: Snowden FOI catch-up

It does, many thanks!

Many thanks,

**Sent:** 15 January 2016 05:35

**Subject:** FOI 1001-15:

You may remember a while back NAD were leading on an FOI on Edward Snowden. This has now been transferred to IPD for them to lead on this but it was agreed that individual desks look at the DipTels which was found to hold information relevant to this FOI request.

**Sent:** 15 January 2016 15:17

**Subject:** RE: URGENT - ACTION BY 15 JAN: DipTels relevant to FOI 1001-15; Edward Snowden

Thanks ... I forwarded it on to ... in IPD as they are leading on this.

Kind Regards

**Sent:** 15 January 2016 15:44

**Subject:** RE: URGENT - ACTION BY 15 JAN: DipTels relevant to FOI 1001-15; Edward Snowden

Thanks for passing this on

Thanks

**Sent:** 15 January 2016 10:50

**Subject:** RE: Quick question

Can you tell me which FOI request this question relates to? The answer to your question will depend on the context of the FOI.

Thanks

**Sent:** 15 January 2016 10:52

**Subject:** RE: Quick question

It is in relation to an FOI asked by ... which NAD are looking after. I attach the request.

Many thanks,

**Sent:** 13 January 2016 16:33

**Subject:** URGENT - ACTION BY 15 JAN: DipTels relevant to FOI 1001-15; Edward Snowden - Ireland DipTel

Can you check you are happy for the Ireland DipTel to be released and clear through ... please. Note the deadline of cop Friday 15 January.

Thanks,

**Sent:** 14 January 2016 17:07

**Subject:** FW: URGENT - ACTION BY 15 JAN: DipTels relevant to FOI 1001-15; Edward Snowden - Ireland DipTel

This FOI request has thrown up a Dublin DipTel

Thanks

**From:** Diptel DUBLIN  
**Sent:** 05 July 2013 12:19  
**To:** Diptel FCO  
**Subject:** IRELAND:

Diptel DUBLIN

### **Summary**

**News that Ireland is among the group of countries to which Snowden has applied for asylum**

### **DETAIL**

Media coverage has been measured and factual, concentrating particularly on the question of Snowden's application for asylum in Ireland and the US arrest warrant.

**Sent:** 19 January 2016 15:37

**Subject:** FW: FOI 1001-15

All,

As some of you may remember the ... sent in an FoI on Snowden and his 'travel plans'. IPD in London have been leading.

**Sent:** 20 January 2016 12:15

**Subject:** RE: FOI 1001-15

Apologies in advance for the mammoth email, but quite a lot of the information I received potentially relates to the ...

We issued a PIT letter on 12<sup>th</sup> January, extending the deadline for a final response until **9<sup>th</sup> February**. However, given the lengthy clearance process for something on such a controversial topic, I wanted to have a digest ready to send round for clearing by the end of the week. How long do you think the clearance process with ... will take? (noting that we've also just received an internal review request on this FOI.)

Happy to discuss once you get in if helpful – I've got a meeting until 2 elsewhere, but otherwise should be at my desk all afternoon.

Many thanks,

**Sent:** 20 January 2016 14:02

**Subject:** RE: FOI 1001-15

I agree with comments so far ...

**Sent:** 25 January 2016 09:12

**Subject:** For Action: FOI 1001-15: Snowden Fol

All,

Thanks for your replies on this.

Many thanks – grateful for swift views as NAD have been given a very short deadline on this one.

Best,

**Sent:** 25 January 2016 15:25

**Subject:** RE: For Action: FOI 1001-15: Snowden Fol

Thanks ...

Will your team still look over the attached (which London have just sent over now in a helpfully consolidated attachment), or is your suggestion that ... lead on reviewing the material?

Thanks for agreeing to be the POC to take forward with the ... leads

All the best,

**Sent:** 25 January 2016 15:23

**Subject:** RE: For Action: FOI 1001-15: Snowden Fol

I will just check with ... as it was actually his predecessor who ultimately led on the Snowden aftermath (which is why he drafted the telegram that has been captured on this).

This notwithstanding, I am happy to lead on consulting the ... once the response is prepared.

**Sent:** 28 January 2016 08:25

**Subject:** FCO FOI 1001-15 - Travel by E Snowden

Colleagues,

Please see attached a draft response to a request asking for information on the whereabouts, possible extradition or return of Edward Snowden from British Territory ...

Please send comments to ...

Regards

All the best,



**Sent:** 28 January 2016 18:26

**Subject:** RE: FOI 1001-15

Thanks for letting me know. I was just wondering if you'd heard any more about how long ... might take to consider the papers?

**Sent:** 01 February 2016 13:21

**Subject:** RE: Snowden FOI - comments required by COP 29th January

All,

I've not yet had any responses on this request. I'm afraid I really do need comments today, please. If that's not going to be possible, please let me know.

Many thanks,

**Sent:** 01 February 2016 13:55

**Subject:** RE: Snowden FOI - comments required by COP 29th January

No comment from me but it would be great if you could let me know when it is released ...

Thanks,

**Sent:** 01 February 2016 14:47

**Subject:** RE: FOI 1001-15

Sorry to be a pest about this, but I'm hoping to be able to send the documents to my Head of Dept for clearance tomorrow (just waiting on a response from Moscow) and so it would be good to know when we might get a response from ... At the least I'd ... to see their proposed changes before the response goes out.

Thanks very much,

**Sent:** 01 February 2016 17:00

**Subject:** RE: URGENT - ACTION BY 15 JAN: DipTels relevant to FOI 1001-15; Edward Snowden

Thanks very much for getting back to me – in that case, and given that ... and ... are content to release that information, I'll include paragraphs 1 and 3 of the diptel in the response.

Kind regards,

**Sent:** 01 February 2016 23:19

**Subject:** RE: For Action: FOI 1001-15: Snowden FoI

Apologies for the delay in getting this back to you. I have gone through and added in some additional suggested redactions – ...

Let me know if you need me to do anything else. Others by all means chip in to ... on this too.

**Sent:** 02 February 2016 10:49

**Subject:** FW: FOI 1001-15 Home Office comments

We've received the attached FOI request on Snowden's whereabouts and prospective request for asylum. Our interpretation of the request was that it was looking for any discussion of where in the world he might choose to seek asylum, so we've prepared a substantive response (attached). However, as per the email chain below ...

Apologies for the short notice, but any thoughts this morning (ahead of ... going to an ... meeting this afternoon where it might be discussed) would be much appreciated.

Many thanks,

**Sent:** 02 February 2016 15:49

**Subject:** FOI 1001-15 Home Office comments

We discussed this morning. I should add this- if ... come back to approve our approach , then could we have a discussion about what we might be releasing.

**Sent:** 02 February 2016 16:19

**Subject:** Section 40 and high profile public figures

Information about the travels of Edward Snowden – personal data – 1001-15 ... case which you are discussing with ...

Thanks

**Sent:** 03 February 2016 15:31

**Subject:** Urgent: Snowden FOI request clearance - by 1130 4th February

We've had an FOI request from ... asking for:

- A copy of any correspondence between the US and FCO sent in June or July 2013 discussing Snowden's whereabouts or discussing the possible extradition or return of Snowden from British territory.
- A copy of any internal FCO correspondence discussing Snowden's whereabouts, his prospective asylum request or the possibility that his plane might cross into British airspace during the same period.

Our response is attached – could you take a look and confirm that you're happy for us to release this material, please?

I'm really sorry about the short notice, but would it be possible to get back to me by **1130 tomorrow**, please? The response has to be cleared by ... before the 9<sup>th</sup>

Many thanks,

**Sent:** Wednesday, February 03, 2016 05:22 PM

**Subject:** RE: Urgent: Snowden FOI request clearance - by 1130 4th February

Thanks ...

I have quite a busy day but ... can help find a slot to clear it

**Sent:** 04 February 2016 09:48

**Subject:** RE: Urgent: Snowden FOI request clearance - by 1130 4th February

Look at the diary, its pretty chaotic today! Not sure when ... will have a moment this morning and she is over at the other office this afternoon. How long roughly do you think she will need to look over this?

**Sent:** 09 February 2016 10:51

**Subject:** RE: FOI request on Edward Snowden

Thanks very much for all your help – in that case we'll go ahead and issue.

All the best,

**Sent:** 09 February 2016 11:24

**Subject:** FOI request 1001-15

Please find attached our response to your Freedom of Information request of 14 October 2015 (our reference: 1001-15).

Kind regards,

**Sent:** 09 February 2016 11:48

**Subject:** RE: FOI request on Edward Snowden

... also wanted to see the draft response, we may not get their clearance today, the IR is due on 17<sup>th</sup> and not ideal but we could PIT again until then?

Regards

**Sent:** 09 February 2016 12:14

**Subject:** RE: FOI request on Edward Snowden

Hurrah,

If you send me the final draft letter and a completed clearance guide I can clear in advance (on condition that no further changes are made) so that it can issue as soon as ... replies.

Thanks

**Sent:** 09 February 2016 13:13

**Subject:** FW: FOI request on Edward Snowden. Cleared to issue

Thanks, this draft is cleared to issue, after accepting minor tracked changes and assuming that there are no substantive changes.

Regards

**Sent:** 09 February 2016 16:16

**Subject:** RE: FOI request on Edward Snowden

Thanks ... - can you copy us the final document for our records

All the best,

**Sent:** 09 February 2016 16:39

**Subject:** FW: FOI request 1001-15

Fi – can we file this one on SOTI?

Cheers

**Sent:** 10 February 2016 10:58

**Subject:** RE: FOI request on Edward Snowden

Assuming the FOI team don't have a problem with it, then I'd be happy for you to share the response and digest with them.

Best wishes,

**Sent:** 10 February 2016 22:28

**Subject:** RE: FOI request on Edward Snowden

They were grateful for the update.

All the best

Thanks,

**Sent:** 20 January 2016 11:12

**Subject:** FW: NEW IR 1001-15

We have now received a Internal Review request for this FOI. I appreciate that IPD only took on this FOI in December.

... – can you please confirm whether IPD should be responding to this IR as it covers the period of time where this FOI was the responsibility of another FCO Department.

Thanks,

**Sent:** 20 January 2016 15:26

**Subject:** RE: NEW IR 1001-15

The FOI response deadline is now 9 February, the IR deadline is 17 February, will the final FOI response be ready to issue by 9th? I not, I think we need to try to respond by the 17th at the latest.

For the IR response we will need to explain the delay by referring to the quantity of information to be assessed, number of clearances required and/or anything else that's relevant and send with the FOI response.

**Sent:** 22 January 2016 16:05

**Subject:** RE: NEW IR 1001-15

Many thanks for this. However should the team previously responsible for the FOI (and the delay/issuing the PITs) be responsible for explaining what their delay was?

Thanks,

**Sent:** 03 February 2016 16:10

**Subject:** RE: NEW IR 1001-15

We do not seem to have had a response to our request that this IR be transferred to the team originally responsible for the FOI (and who were dealing with the previous delays). Grateful if you could respond.

**Sent:** 04 February 2016 16:33

**Subject:** RE: NEW IR 1001-15

This is an IR on our handling of the request - why we have not yet responded - so we have to answer that point.

Once we send a substantive response he is also entitled to ask for an IR of the use of exemptions etc.

Regards

**Sent:** 04 February 2016 11:27

**Subject:** RE: NEW IR 1001-15

Sorry I haven't replied sooner, as it will be IPD that send the final response to this request I think the IR response needs to be signed off by your department too. I have copied in ... as OGLO in America's Dir who were originally handling the request and ... will be able to tell you what was happening before it was re-allocated to you.

Regards

**Sent:** 04 February 2016 13:26

**Subject:** FW: NEW IR 1001-15

Is there someone in IPD who normally does these or do I have to ask for a volunteer? (can't imagine anyone's going to volunteer!) They've only got a week and a half left to do it so we'll need to sort it out fairly soon.

**Sent:** 12 February 2016 11:43

**Subject:** RE: NEW IR 1001-15

... – would you be able to do this? We have multiple deadlines over the next few weeks and I don't think I will have time to do this.

**Sent:** 12 February 2016 11:58

**Subject:** RE: NEW IR 1001-15

As you say, we expected this. Things have been made harder than they ought to be by this FOI from a near professional requester being landed on IPD late in the process. But what is done is done. And I think it highly likely that the requester was never going to be happy with the necessary but substantial redactions. I'm not an expert on FOI by any stretch, so let's discuss options within the team at Monday's team meeting.

**Sent:** 12 February 2016 12:20

**Subject:** RE: NEW IR 1001-15

Thanks so much! I will do the next one ...

**Sent:** 12 February 2016 11:59

**Subject:** RE: NEW IR 1001-15

Whilst this is a hospital pass, I see no strong reason why it should sit with your team over mine (or vice versa). Therefore happy to take this on in light of your deadlines.

**Sent:** 12 February 2016 11:25

**Subject:** FW: NEW IR 1001-15

As we suspected we have received confirmation that an IR request needs to be completed. They want to look at both what was the cause of the delay and also then the redactions/exemptions applied in the response. On the plus side we have a new deadline of 10 March.

The person that conducts the IR needs to be removed from the original process, therefore this will fall to either ... to lead the IR.

... – grateful if you could decide who will take this forward.

... – please provide lines/information as to the cause of the delay with NAD in responding to the original FOI request, this is not something IPD can review/comment on.

Kind Regards,

**Sent:** 12 February 2016 12:33

**Subject:** RE: FOI request on Edward Snowden

... has sent the attached letter requesting an internal review following the response sent to him, as well as why it took so long for the FCO to reply. This process will be lead by a senior IPD officer who was not involved with the original FOI request ...

We will keep you informed with progress, especially if a decision is made to release any further material in addition to what was sent to him ...

**Sent:** 25 February 2016 16:58

**Subject:** FOI 1001-15 : IR reply

Having conducted a review, I believe there are two additional bits of information which should be released. I have highlighted these in the digest. I have also explained this in the letter and annex. I also feel we should apologise for the delay - it was pretty lengthy.

**Sent:** 26 February 2016 11:14

**Subject:** FOI 1001-15 : IR reply

I understand that you were involved in an FOI we recently had on Snowden. The requester has asked for an internal review, which I am conducting. Having gone through the redacted material I think there are two additional bits of information which should have been released. One from a Washington diptel and one from a Hong Kong diptel. I have included and highlighted these in the attached revised digest. I would be grateful if you could get in touch with Hong Kong colleagues and let them know the additional information we plan to release and have them send any objections to you by their close on Tuesday (informing them we will take silence as contentment). I will mirror this process with Washington. My plan will then be to have a final version cleared here by our head of department on Wednesday so we can get this out on Thursday.

Hope this is all clear and straightforward, but please do call me if you'd like to talk any of it through.

**Sent:** 26 February 2016 16:52

**Subject:** RE: FOI 1001-15 : IR reply

We just spoke. I am content with releasing the following wording ...

**Diptel Hong Kong to FCO London dates 24 June 2013. Subject: HONG KONG: Snowden Flight from Hong Kong**

**... Edward Snowden departed Hong Kong on an Aeroflot flight for Moscow at around 1100 local time on 23 June.**

**Sent:** 26 February 2016 19:46

**Subject:** RE: ACTION by close 01/03: FOI 1001-15 : IR reply

Thanks for checking with us. I'm content with this one additional line from Washington and the one from Hong Kong and don't think we need to go back to ... as its in line with what we've already agreed with them

All the best,

**Sent:** 26 February 2016 06:27

**Subject:** ACTION by close 01/03: FOI 1001-15 : IR reply

Intelligence Policy Department have finished carrying out an Internal review for FOI 1001-15. As part of this process, they have captured some extra information which they would like to release and have been advised by KMD that they will need to bring this up with Posts (in this case it's Washington and Hong Kong). I understand the addition is the high-lighted sentence in Annex A.

Grateful if you could confirm that you have been informed of this decision and if you have any objections, please let us know by close (US time) Tuesday 1 March.

Many Thanks

**Sent:** 26 February 2016 11:05

**Subject:** RE: FOI 1001-15 : IR reply

Yes please. Could you get in touch with Washington colleagues and let them know the additional information we plan to release and have them send any objections to you by their close on Tuesday (informing them we will take silence as contentment). I will mirror this process with Hong Kong. So my plan will then be to have a final version cleared here by our head of department on Wednesday so we can get this out on Thursday.

**Sent:** 26 February 2016 09:08

**Subject:** RE: FOI 1001-15 : IR reply

... – do let me know if you'd like me to send this to Washington or if you already have a contact you're liaising with.

**Sent:** 29 February 2016 12:16

**Subject:** ACTION BY 9 MARCH: Internal Review of FOI 1001-15

Please see attached the completed IR. This needs to be cleared at Head of Department level and sent to the FOI team by Wednesday 9 March to meet the deadline. I have already included wording in the cover letter to say that you have approved, so if you are content I will send on.

The cover letter additionally explains that:

1. All necessary steps were taken and exemptions were correctly used,
2. Two small additional bits of information should have been released and are now included in an updated digest,  
*(these were in DipTels from Hong Kong and Washington and have been cleared for release by those two posts)*
3. We took longer than we should have done in replying.

Happy to discuss if you have any questions.

**Sent:** 07 March 2016 11:04

**Subject:** FW: ACTION BY 9 MARCH: Internal Review of FOI 1001-15

... has completed his internal review of this FOI. We are awaiting head of department approval, but ahead of this wanted to check with you whether this should be cleared with the ... as the original response was.

Happy to discuss.



**Sent:** 07 March 2016 17:28

**Subject:** FW: ACTION BY 9 MARCH: Internal Review of FOI 1001-15

To confirm I am content with this.

**Sent:** 07 March 2016 17:32

**Subject:** FW: ACTION BY 9 MARCH: Internal Review of FOI 1001-15

...

Please find attached the final reply to the IR of FOI 1001-15. This has been cleared by Head of IPD.