

Freedom of Information Request

FOI/AH/16/26

LIAISON WITH LEGAL SERVICES BOARD AND SOLICITORS REGULATION AUTHORITY

5 September 2016

Dear Sirs

Please send me copies of all meeting minutes held with the SRA and the LSB for the years 2015 and 2016.

Kind regards

[REDACTED]

RESPONSE

27 September 2016

[REDACTED]

I am the Commissioner's Information Officer and I will be dealing with your Freedom of Information request.

I can confirm that the OISC has met with representatives of both the LSB and the SRA in the two years identified and that no minutes of those meetings were taken.

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 request. Please quote the above reference number in any request for an internal review.

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. Details on how to do this are on his website at <http://ico.org.uk/>

Kind regards,

For and on behalf of the Office of the Immigration Services Commissioner

REQUEST FOR AN INTERVAL REVIEW

10 October 2016

Dear [REDACTED]

I request an internal review.

You have interpreted my request too narrowly. There must be some records of the meetings (eg dates, attendees, not of outcome) and you have not produced them.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]

RESPONSE

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email of 10 October 2016 requesting an internal review of the decision taken in this case by our Information Officer, Asim Hussain. I have now had an opportunity to review the case, and I can find no fault in the way your original request was handled or the decision that was reached.

However, in response to your subsequent request – which clarified that you were interested in learning what meetings had taken place and not simply receiving the associated minutes – I am more than happy to provide you with such information as we hold. I apologise for the delay in replying, but it has taken some time to gather the details you require.

The attached document provide a comprehensive list of direct meetings between the OISC and the LSB and between the OISC and the SRA held during 2015 and 2016. The document also includes a table showing meetings hosted by third parties which were attended by representatives from the OISC and the LSB or SRA. In these cases we have done our best to identify which individuals attended the meetings, but our records do not always provide a definitive record of precisely who attended – some of the meetings being large events with numerous delegates.

For the sake of completeness I should add that at certain meetings hosted by third parties involving the exchange of information between law enforcement authorities, OISC representatives have taken notes which have subsequently been circulated to colleagues within this Office. However, I must clarify that these are not formal minutes, and we are in any case unable to share them with you because they constitute information held by us for the purposes of investigating whether an individual should be charged with a criminal offence – rendering them exempt from disclosure.

I do hope that the attached information meets your needs. However, if you are not content with the outcome of this internal review you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. She can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire SK9 5AF



Yours sincerely,

For and on behalf of the Office of the Immigration Services Commissioner

1. Direct meetings between OISC and LSB - 2015-2016

Date of Meeting	Attendees
25 August 2015	Stephen Seymour, OISC Saiqa Amin, OISC Emma Kelly-Dempster, LSB Paul Greening, LSB
2 December 2015	Dr Ian Leigh, OISC Stephen Seymour, OISC Richard Moriarty, LSB Paul Greening, LSB
1 July 2016	Dr Ian Leigh, OISC Stephen Seymour, OISC Neil Buckley, LSB Paul Greening, LSB
1 November 2016	Stephen Seymour, OISC Deirdre Gilchrist, OISC Tom Peplow, LSB Kate Webb, LSB Callum Armstrong, LSB

2. Direct meetings between OISC and SRA – 2015-2016

Date of Meeting	Attendees
13 January 2015	Stephen Seymour, OISC Crispin Passmore, SRA
10 April 2015	Stephen Seymour, OISC David Middleton, SRA
14 May 2015	Stephen Seymour, OISC Saiqa Amin, OISC Ann Marie Keeling, SRA Mark Faulkner, SRA
4 April 2016	Stephen Seymour, OISC Deirdre Gilchrist, OISC Saiqa Amin, OISC Chris Handford, SRA
3 October 2016	Stephen Seymour, OISC Deirdre Gilchrist, OISC Chris Handford, SRA

3. Third party meetings – 2015-2016

Date of Meeting	Attendees
27 January 2015	Caroline Morley - OISC Malcolm Lees - SRA Leah Saich - SRA Heather Gelder - SRA Charlotte Gordon - SRA Nick Jones - Home Office

	<p>Elaine Kelly - Home Office Marie Anne Dunn - Home Office * Other unnamed officials may have attended this meeting.</p>
31 March 2015	<p>Russell Samwell - OISC Caroline Morley – OISC Malcolm Lees - SRA Leah Saich - SRA Ann McGruer - SRA * Other unnamed officials may have attended this meeting.</p>
16 June 2015	<p>Victoria Bovill-Lamb - OISC Russell Samwell - OISC Malcolm Lees - SRA Ann McGruer - SRA Elaine Kelly - Home Office * Other unnamed officials may have attended this meeting.</p>
24 September 2015	<p>Malcolm Lees - SRA Heather Gelder - SRA Caroline Morley – OISC * Other unnamed officials may have attended this meeting.</p>
16 October 2015, hosted by Immigration Law Practitioners' Association	<p>Stephen Seymour, OISC Deirdre Gilchrist, OISC Chris Handford, SRA * Other unnamed officials attended this meeting.</p>
27 November 2015	<p>Susan Walton – OISC Malcolm Lees - SRA Ann McGruer - SRA Pauline Alcock – SRA * Other unnamed officials may have attended this meeting.</p>
18 February 2016	<p>Victoria Bovill-Lamb - OISC Caroline Morley - OISC Susan Walton - OISC Malcolm Lees - SRA Pauline Alcock - SRA Robert Turner - Home Office Jane Parrott - Home Office Nick Jones - Home Office Suzanne Jones - Home Office</p>
22 April 2016	<p>Victoria Bovill-Lamb - OISC Caroline Morley - OISC Malcolm Lees - SRA Pauline Alcock - SRA Susan Walton - OISC Elaine Kelly - Home Office Nick Jones - Home Office</p>
24 June 2016, hosted by	<p>Dr Ian Leigh, OISC</p>

HM Treasury	Kate Webb, LSB *Other officials attended this event
1 July 2016	Caroline Morley - OISC Sue Walton - OISC Malcolm Lees - SRA Stephanie Wright - SRA Nick Jones - Home Office Aaron Francis - Home Office * Other unnamed officials may have attended this meeting.
2 September 2016	Caroline Morley - OISC Victoria Bovill-Lamb - OISC Malcolm Lees - SRA Nick Jones - Home Office Matt Gough - Home Office Martin Vernon - Home Office * Other unnamed officials may have attended this meeting.
10 October 2016, hosted by Competition and Markets Authority	Dr Ian Leigh, OISC Steve Brooker, LSB *Other officials attended this event
1 November 2016	Stephen Seymour, OISC Deirdre Gilchrist, OISC Tom Peplow, LSB Kate Webb, LSB Callum Armstrong, LSB