



Government Legal Department

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Our reference: BVFOI/286/15 re Edward Krishna Chapman

Freedom of Information Act 2000 Request

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

On the Unclaimed Estates List, Edward Chapman's date of birth is given as 31 July 1923, and his place of birth is given as Liverpool. However, we have obtained his death certificate which gives his date of birth as 31 **May** 1923, and his place of birth as simply 'England'

Please can you tell us what evidence you have to suggest he was born on 31 July 1923 in Liverpool, along with any other information you hold relating to Mr Chapman's origins, family members, and potential adopted status.

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.

Information relating to the deceased's place of birth is contained within the death certificate which states that the deceased was born on 31 May 1923 in England. The website has been updated to reflect this information. We apologise any inconvenience caused.

The Division holds a copy of a birth certificate in a name similar to the deceased's but with a different date and place of birth from that shown on the death certificate. We have no information to confirm that this certificate relates to the deceased. As this information may relate to a living person, it is exempt from disclosure under section 40(2) of the Act. Information is exempt from disclosure if 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.

The Division holds information which indicates that the deceased was a bachelor and never had children. It also appears from information held that the deceased may have been born in Liverpool on 31 July 1923, or Hammersmith and Fulham on 21 May 1923, and he came to London about 40 years ago. He was in active service during the Second World War and was drafted into the RAF at 16 and remained with them until the age of 25.

The Division holds no further information in relation to your request.

