

FOI 23/007

5th March 2023

Dear

Thank you for your request under the Freedom of Information Act.

No decision has been taken to stop the publishing of FOI responses. We remain committed to publishing responses, but we accept that there has been a long delay and a backlog of responses to publish has now developed.

We intend to resume publishing towards the end of March with the aim to have caught up the backlog over the next 2-3 months, and then establishing a more regular publication cycle.

Given that we plan to publish these requests in full we believe that Section 22 (Information intended for future Publication) of the Freedom of Information Act applies to your request. Section 22 is a qualified exemption, which requires us to consider the public interest test. Whilst we recognise there is a clear public interest in providing copies of our FOI replies, doing so ahead of our proposed publication timeframe would involve taking resource from our front line customer team to focus on this activity, leading to a delay in responses to customers making contact with the team. Given that we have a plan to begin publishing shortly we do not believe the public interest is best served by bringing this activity forward.

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 you receive this response and addressed to: info@mhra.gov.uk

If you remain dissatisfied following any internal review, you may ask the Information Commissioner (ICO) to decide on whether or not we have interpreted the FOIA correctly in dealing with the request and subsequent internal review. Please bear in mind that the Information Commissioner will not normally review our handling of your request unless you have first contacted us to conduct an internal review. The ICO's address is:

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

Yours sincerely

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