



Government Legal Department

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[REDACTED]

Ref No: FOI 25_220

24th October 2025

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email of 3rd October 2025 containing your request for information. The Government Legal Department ("GLD") have considered your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 ("the Act", "FOIA")

Request

Please provide any and all written communication, instructions and interactions with Ministers or officials at the Ministry of Justice in relation to the Terminally Ill Adults (End of Life) Bill.

Recognising that this was not government policy and the government was expected to remain neutral on this Bill, I would not expect exemptions regarding policy formation to apply.

Response

Pursuant to section 1(1)(a) of the Act, GLD informs you that it partially holds the information you have requested, but we have estimated that cost of complying with your request would exceed the appropriate cost limit, set at £600 for Central Government. This means compliance with your request would require more than 24 hours work, at the flat rate of £25 per hour, per person. This rateable value is applied to determining whether the department holds the information, and locating, retrieving and extracting it.

Section 12 of the Act makes clear that a public authority (such as the GLD) is not obliged to comply with the request if the cost of complying with the request would exceed the 'appropriate limit'. From an initial review of the number of emails held by lawyers from MOJ legal advisers we estimate that answering your request would take approximately 73 hours.

In accordance with s16 FOIA and providing advice and assistance, GLD may be able to provide some information in scope of your request if you reduce or refine your request to bring the cost of compliance under the limit, for example, by limiting the timeframe. You may also wish to consider requesting information from the Ministry of Justice as they are more likely to hold the information.

Contact: data.access@justice.gov.uk

Your Rights

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask GLD for an internal review. Internal review requests should be submitted to GLD within two months of the date of receipt of the response to your original correspondence. Please use the contact details provided at the top of this letter in order to request an internal review relating to your original request.

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. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF
www.ICO.org.uk

Yours sincerely,

Freedom of Information Team
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