

Freedom of Information Act 2000 (Section 51)

Information notice

Date: 12 August 2024

Public Authority: School Teachers' Review Body
Address: 10 Victoria Street
London
SW1H 0NB

Section 51

Under section 51 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA), which is set out below, the Information Commissioner (the "Commissioner") has the power to serve a notice on a public authority requiring it to furnish him with any information he requires to enforce the requirements of FOIA.

"If the Commissioner –

(a) has received an application under section 50, ...

"he may serve the authority with a notice (in this Act referred to as "an information notice") requiring it, within such time as is specified in the notice, to furnish the Commissioner, in such form as may be so specified, with such information relating to the application, to compliance with Part I or to conformity with the code of practice as is so specified."

Application under section 50 of FOIA

1. The Commissioner has received an application under section 50 of FOIA, reference IC-304557-X5R0, for a decision whether a request for information made by the complainant to the above public authority on 26 February 2024, has been dealt with in accordance with the requirements of Part I of FOIA.

Reasons for the Notice

2. The Commissioner wrote to the public authority on 22 July 2024 asking for a submission in support of the exemptions being relied upon and for copies of any information being withheld. He asked for this information to be provided by Monday 5 August 2024.
3. At the date of this notice, the Commissioner's correspondence has been neither acknowledged nor responded to.

Information required

4. In view of the matters described above the Commissioner hereby gives notice that in the exercise of his powers under section 51 of FOIA he requires that the public authority shall, within 30 calendar days of the date of this notice, furnish the Commissioner with a copy of the following information:
 - Copies of any information being withheld from disclosure. Documents should be clearly marked up to show the part(s) of the request they are considered to be within the scope of.
 - Copies of any opinion provided by the Qualified Person in respect of this request and any submission provided to the Qualified Person for the purpose of seeking such an opinion.
 - Answers to the numbered questions set out in the Commissioner's letter of 22 July 2024 (fresh copy included with this notice).

Failure to comply

5. Failure to comply with the steps described above may result in the Commissioner making written certification of this fact to the High Court (or the Court of Session in Scotland) pursuant to section 54 of FOIA, and may be dealt with as a contempt of court.

Right of appeal

6. Either party has the right to appeal against this information notice to the First-tier Tribunal (Information Rights). Information about the appeals process may be obtained from:

First-tier Tribunal (Information Rights)
GRC & GRP Tribunals,
PO Box 9300,
LEICESTER,
LE1 8DJ

Tel: 0203 936 8963

Fax: 0870 739 5836

Email: grc@justice.gov.uk

Website: www.justice.gov.uk/tribunals/general-regulatory-chamber

7. Any Notice of Appeal should be served on the Tribunal within 28 (calendar) days of the date on which this information notice is sent. If Notice of Appeal is served late the Tribunal will not accept it unless it is of the opinion that it is just and right to do so by reason of special circumstances.

Signed by

Roger Cawthorne
Senior Case Officer
Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF