

OFFICIAL SENSITIVE - COVERING UNCLASSIFIED

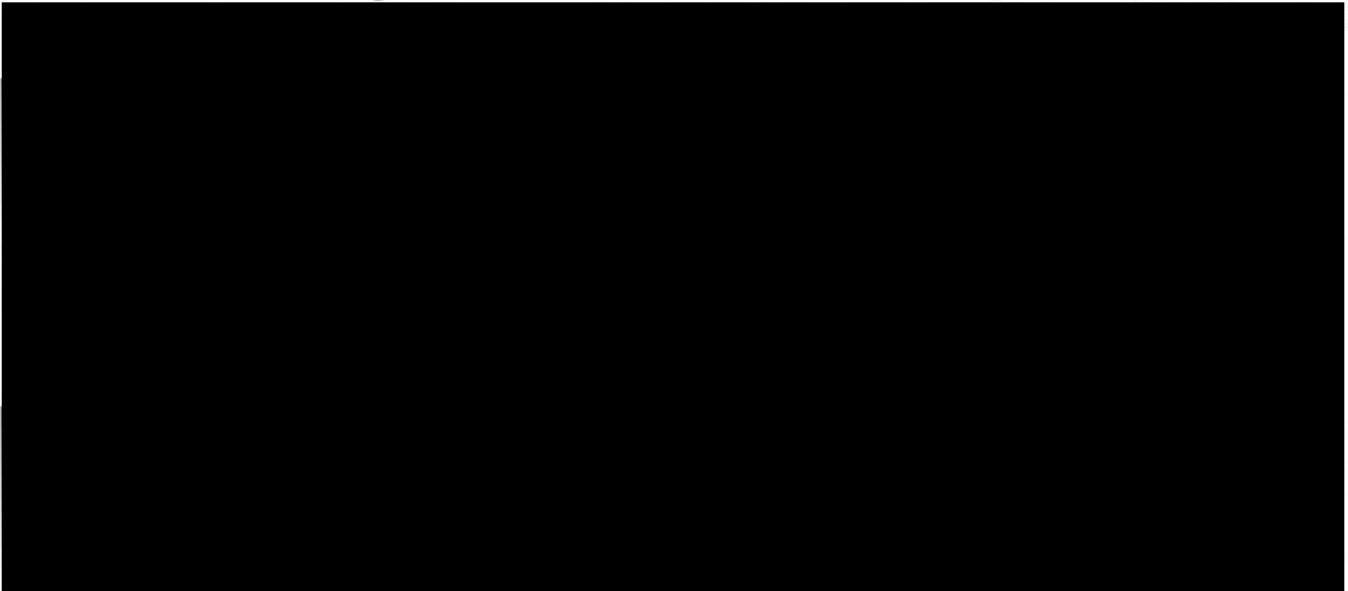
PREM 49/1946

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION. FOI policy: part 1

Labour administration

The file covers the early days of the implementation of the Data Protection Act (DPA) when departments were struggling to come to terms with its provisions, especially in responding to subject access requests (SAR). It also includes a few papers concerning preparations for the implementation of the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA).

There is a submission from the Lord Chancellor to the PM proposing that departments should not seek excessive compliance with the DPA in responding to SARs and should rely on a robust use of exemptions, and that guidance should be produced. He also considered that amendments might be made to the DPA. Sir R Wilson was not so sanguine.



There is detailed Counsel's advice on various DPA issues.

There is an internal CO minute stressing that we should aim for openness generally but be restrictive where openness was inconvenient for the government.

There is a submission to the PM from the Lord Chancellor proposing a timetable for the implementation of the FOIA. It stressed that because of the exemptions in the FOIA it wouldn't cause the sort of problems associated with the DPA. The PM and other Ministers replied indicating assent.

There is a submission from the Lord Chancellor to the PM seeking assent to publish guidance to Departments on the DPA.

There is a letter from Jack Straw to the Lord Chancellor suggesting an amendment to the DPA exempting from disclosure data whose disclosure would harm international relations.

There is a submission to the PM on Management of Projects and a note recording his comments - Both apparently misfiled.

There is a paper about preparations for COP6 - Apparently misfiled

Name  
Related To  
SF-007223

Details  
Related

Task Information

Assigned To

[REDACTED]

Subject

Other

Due Date

12/08/2022 ⓘ

Comments

Hi [REDACTED] we spoke. I think this file needs to be closed in full. The first half is OK but the second half is sprinkled with references to individuals who made subject access requests or request for information.

Additional Information

Status

Completed

Related To

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