

[REDACTED]

From: FOI
Sent: 24 January 2017 16:04
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: FOI 03/17 - The British Voice Resignation Letter request
Attachments: 2015-06-17 - Mr Vaughan - resignation letter.pdf

Dear [REDACTED]

Our Ref: FOI 03/17

Thank you for your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 dated **9 January 2017**.

The Commission aims to respond to requests for information promptly and has done so within the statutory timeframe of twenty working days.

Your request is in bold below followed by our response.

You have requested:

A copy of Mr Vaughan's original letter of resignation and we need a copy of it to verify when Mr Vaughan resigned.

Our response is as follows:

We hold the information you have requested and have provided the following document in this response:

- Letter from Mr Martin Vaughan resigning his position as registered Nominating Officer of The British Voice, received by the Electoral Commission on 17 June 2015.

The Electoral Commission maintains the register of political parties. Under the Political Parties, Elections and Referendums Act 2000 ('PPERA'), a party is required to keep its registered details up to date which includes details relating to its registered officers. Mr Vaughan was, at the time of receipt of the resignation letter the registered Nominating Officer for The British Voice.

The attached letter contains the date on which Mr Vaughan wrote to the Commission to resign his post. In the letter we have also redacted some of the information contained in the document, we consider this information exempt under section 40 for the reasons set out below.

Section 40(2) and (3)(a)(i) of the FOI Act

Section 40 (2) provides for an exemption where the information requested constitutes personal data as defined by the DPA, and where release of the information requested would breach one of the data protection principles.

Some of the information we hold that is relevant to your request falls within the description of personal data as defined by section 1 of the DPA because the information relates directly to an identifiable living individual, and is 'personal data' under section 40 (2). Disclosure of this information would contravene the first principle of the DPA.

The first data protection principle states that personal data shall only be released if it is fair and lawful to do so. The Commission considers that it would be unfair to release the information


requested as the individual in this case would not reasonably expect the disclosure of this information.

Therefore, the Commission is not satisfied that under section 40 (2) it would be fair and lawful to provide you with the personal data contained in the information requested.

I trust that this information satisfies your request. The Commission strives to be an open, transparent authority, but in some circumstances we cannot responsibly release requested information, and we ask for your understanding in this regard.

If you are not satisfied with this response, please note that the Commission operates a review procedure, details of which can be found on the Commission website at:
Please also note that if you have exhausted all internal Commission review procedures and you are still not satisfied you have the right to appeal to the Information Commissioner. Details of this procedure can be found on the ICO website: <http://www.ico.gov.uk>

Yours sincerely


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Party and Electoral Finance
The electoral commission
3 Bunhill Row
London EC1Y8YZ

15/06/15



Dear sir/madame.

My name is Martin Vaughan, I am the registered nominating officer for The British Voice, a small party registered with your commission.

I wish to resign my position as nominating officer for this party.



Kind Regards Mr Martin Vaughan.

