From:	FOI
To:	[redacted]
Cc:	FOI
Subject:	FOI 183/17 Documents concerning Henry Angest - Response
Date:	11 December 2017 15:12:26
Attachments:	In the News - Monday 16 October 2017 redacted.pdf In the News - Monday 18 September 2017 redacted.pdf

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Dear [redacted],

Our Ref: FOI 183/17

Thank you for your email to the Electoral Commission dated **23 November 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.

I wish to make a request under the Freedom of Information Act for the following records which I believe to be held by this body:

Copies of any and all documents concerning or referring to Henry Angest. Please limit your search for relevant material from 1 January 2016 to present.
If any portion of these records is withheld, please specify which specific statutory exemptions are being relied upon under the Act. Please describe each record withheld, including its date and reason for exemption.

Our response is as follows:

We hold information you have requested.

Please find attached two documents that refer to Henry Angest.

Other documents that fall under this request have already been published under statute (Political Parties, Elections and Referendums Act 2000, section 69) and are readily available for the public access via our registers search page, therefore the Commission considers this information to be exempt under s. 21(2) (b) of the Freedom of Information Act.

I trust that this information satisfies your request. The Commission strives to be an open, transparent authority. 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: http://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/about-us/freedom-of-information-requests/how-do-I-make-an-foi-request.

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: https://ico.org.uk/

Yours sincerely,

[redacted]

Information Management Adviser
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From: [redacted]
Sent: 16 October 2017 11:23
To: All EC Staff - All Sites; Commissioners Protected
Subject: In the News - Monday 16 October 2017

[redacted]

OpenDemocracy UK have published not just one, but two articles on political finance today. This is part of a full week of "worrying new details about the 'dark money' that bankrolled Brexit", and they say they will publish a new story every day to "add to this disturbing picture". The article introducing this week's extravaganza is here: **OpenDemocracyUK**.

Today's **first story** by regular contributors Adam Ramsay and Peter Geoghegan covers the much-discussed £435,000 donation that the DUP has confirmed it received during the EU referendum campaign. The article calls for more transparency of donations in Northern Ireland (which the UK Government has already promised and we expect to hear more news on that this week) and covers (again) the story of how Ramsay and Geoghegan investigated this story over the past year.

The new part of this story is that they have "contacted everyone who gave £25,000 or more to oppose independence in the run-up to the 2014 Scottish referendum" to ask if they were the source of the DUP donation. They are looking at Scottish donors because the DUP confirmed the source as being the Constitutional Research Council (CRC) which appears to be based in Scotland. The article lists, at length, a long list of potential donors with potted biographies and eventually suggests quite heavily that the authors believe the donors to be Henry Angest, chief executive of the private bank Arbuthnot Latham. However, they recognise they have "no evidence to suggest that Angest, a previous chairman of the Committee on Standards in Public Life, nor any of the other figures we have contacted, are the source of the £435,000."

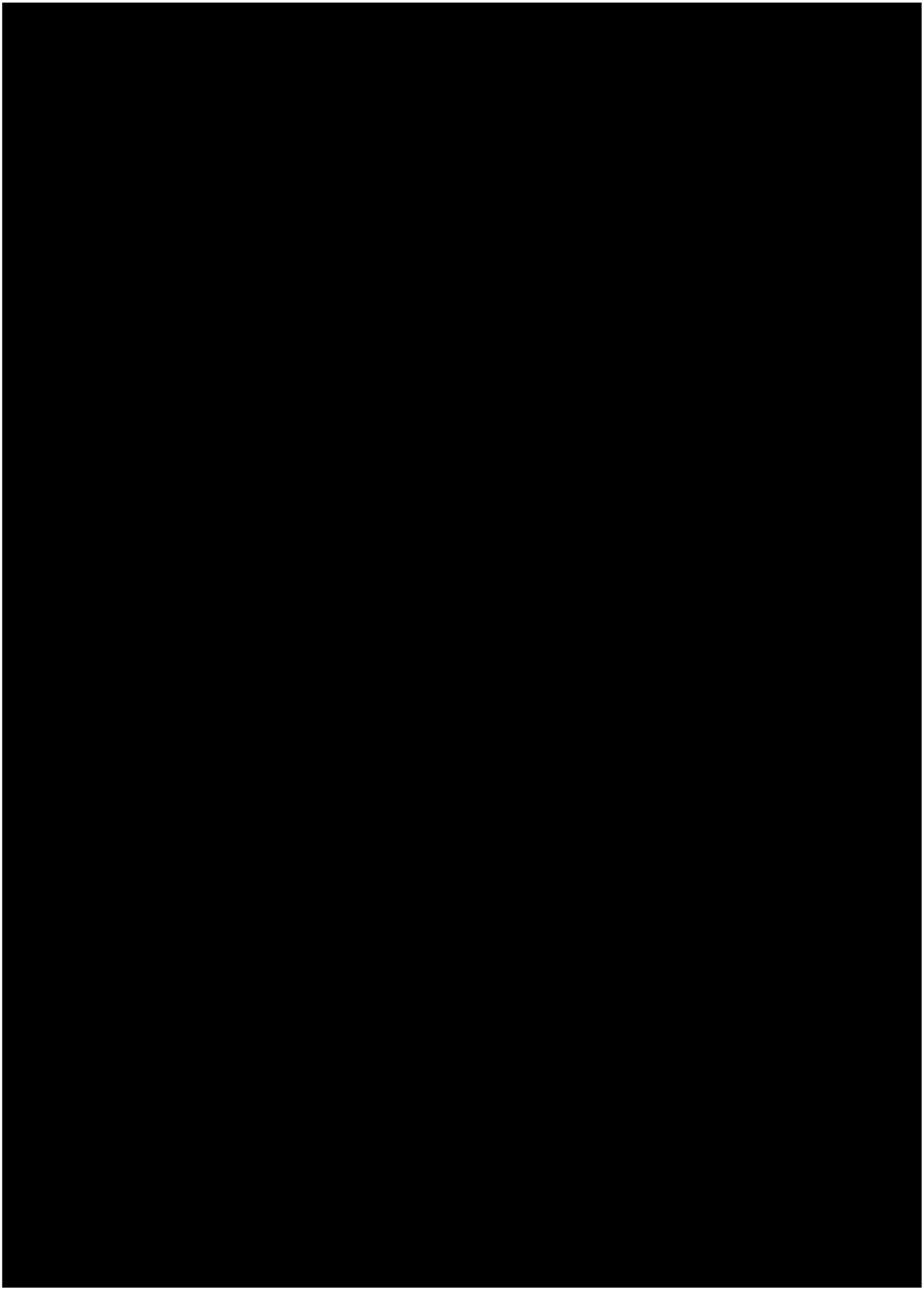


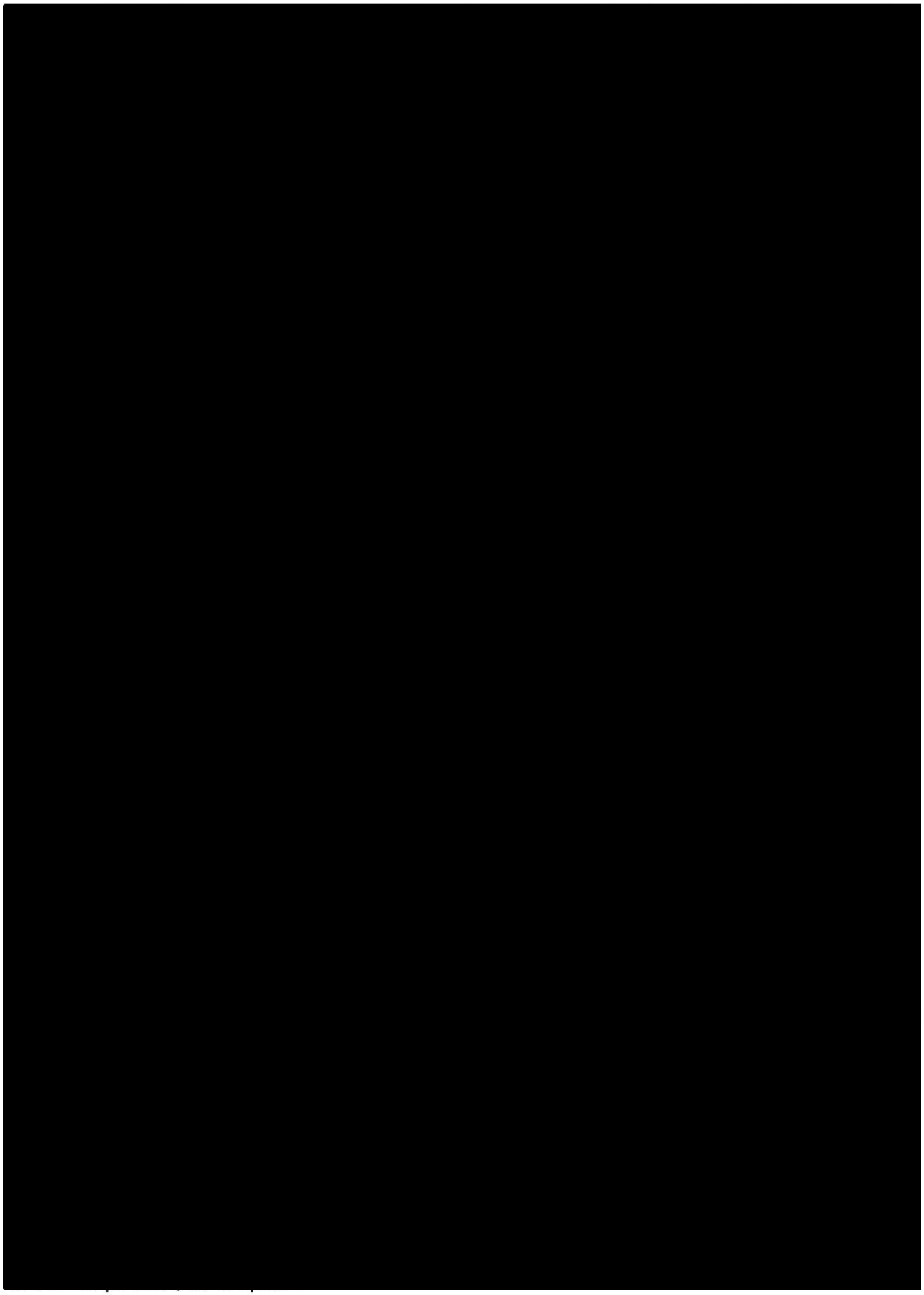


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From: [redacted]
Sent: 18 September 2017 12:33
To: All EC Staff - All Sites; Commissioners Protected
Subject: In the News - Monday 18 September 2017

[redacted]

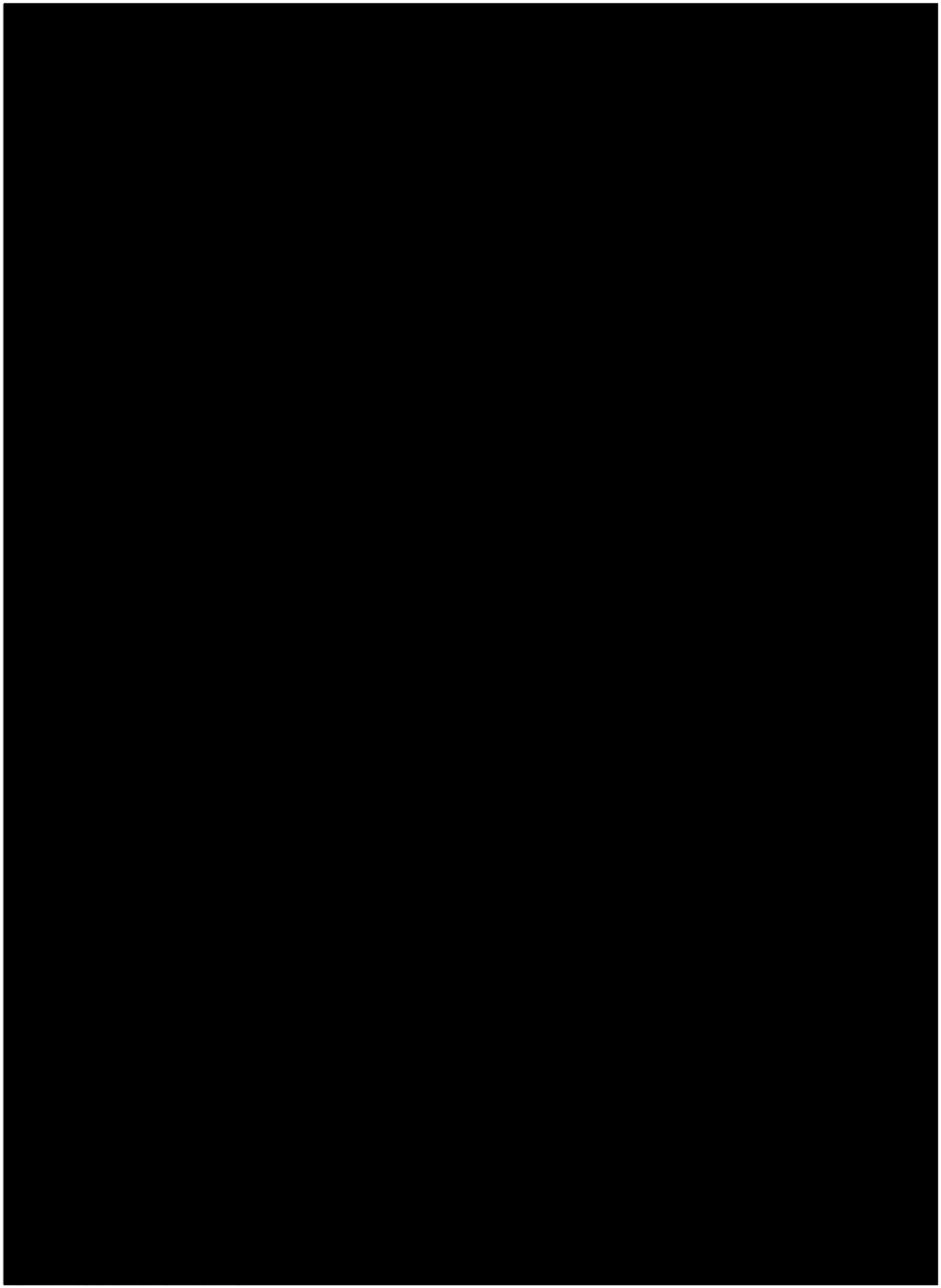




[redacted]

Tory boss tells donors: Find £24m to boost campaign machine – Sky News
Sky News reports that the new chief executive of the Conservative Party, Sir Mick Davis, has told around 30 wealthy supporters the party needs an extra £6million per year to improve its "battle-readiness". Sky News reports that "Among those who attended Thursday's event at the Institute for Mechanical Engineers in Westminster were: Henry Angest, the boss of Arbuthnot Banking Group; Peter Cruddas, chief executive of financial spread-betting company CMC Markets; and David Mayhew, former boss of JP Morgan Cazenove, the City broking powerhouse. David Brownlow, a recruitment entrepreneur who is now the vice-chairman for campaigning; Andrew Law, who runs the hedge fund Caxton Associates; Tony Gallagher, a property tycoon; and Alexander Temerko, a Ukrainian-born businessman, also attended the presentation."

[redacted]



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