From: FOI
Sent: 15 May 2018 18:38
To: [redacted]
Subject: FOI 054/18 Advice to Leave Campaigns Response

Dear [redacted],

Our Ref: FOI 054/18

Thank you for your email to the Electoral Commission dated 27 March 2018, received by the Commission on 28 March 2018**.** We requested clarification of your request and received response on **19 April 2018**.

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

Your clarified request is in bold below followed by our response.

Please provide:

a) All advice issued directly to the Vote Leave campaign (and its representatives) by the electoral commission in 2016, including any correspondence offering formal advice or guidance.
b) All advice issued directly to the BeLeave campaign (and its representatives) by the electoral commission in 2016, including any correspondence offering formal advice or guidance.
c) All advice issued directly to the Veterans for Britain campaign (and its representatives) by the electoral commission in 2016, including any correspondence offering formal advice or guidance.

Our response is as follows:

We hold some the information you have requested.

Vote Leave

The Commission has previously responded to two FOI request for correspondence between Vote Leave officials and ourselves which covers your request. These are:

- All correspondence between the Commission and Vote Leave between 1 January 2016 and 26 November 2017: **here**

- All correspondence between the Commission and Vote Leave between 1 January 2016 and 30 June 2016: **here**

When responding to the previous FOI requests cited above, the Commission applied exemptions under section 31 in respect of ongoing investigations and section 40 in

relation to redaction of some documents of personal information relating to individuals. We are satisfied that given the live status of our ongoing investigations into these campaigners, it is not in the public interest to release this information.

BeLeave and Veterans for Britain

The Commission does not hold any information within the scope of your request.

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: 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]
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