The Electoral Commission

3 Bunhill Row
London EC1Y 8YZ

Tel: 020 7271 0500
info@electoralcommission.org.uk
electoralcommission.org.uk

[redacted]

21 November 2018

Dear [redacted],

Our Ref: FOI 145/18

Thank you for your email to the Electoral Commission dated **29 August 2018.**

The Commission aims to respond to requests for information promptly and regrets that on this occasion we have not done so.

Your request is in bold below followed by our response.

1. **May I also request under FOIA the sexuality statistics for you Commission for the years since they have been kept?**

Our response is as follows:

We hold the information you have requested.

The information you have requested is exempt under Section 40(2) of the Freedom of Information Act. Section 40(2) provides exemption where the information requested constitutes personal data as defined by the Data Protection Act 2018 (DPA), and where release of the information requests would breach one of the data protection principles. The information contained in the requested information falls within the description of 'special category data' personal data as defined by Part 1 of the DPA.

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]

The Electoral Commission
Access to Information Officer (FOI and DPA)
foi@electoralcommission.org.uk