[redacted]

From: FOI
Sent: 01 March 2021 10:32
To: [redacted]
Subject: FOI 009-21 - Response

Dear [redacted],

Our Ref: FOI-009-21

Thank you for your email to the Electoral Commission dated 4 February 2021.

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 shown below followed by our response.

I would like to make a Freedom of information request.
I would like to respectfully request the following information: The Number of Postal votes cast in the last 3 United Kingdom General Elections broken down by constituency and candidate.
This is for an academic article I am writing regarding access to the democratic process. I appreciate your efforts and accuracy with regards the strenuous and fair way that our elections are run.

Our response is as follows:

We hold some of the information you have requested.

The data on the number of postal votes issued and included in the count, by constituency, is exempt from disclosure under section 21 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. Section 21 provides for an exemption where the information requested is reasonably accessible to you by other means. You can find the data you are looking for on our website; please see the links below:

2015: http://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/__data/assets/excel_doc/0011/191648/UKPGE-turnout-postal-rejected-admin-amended-WEB.xlsx

2017: https://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/__data/assets/excel_doc/0007/234979/2017-UKPGE-Electoral-Data.xls

2019: https://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/sites/default/files/2020-05/UKPGE%202019-%20Electoral%20Data-Website.xlsx

Data is not available on which candidates individual votes were cast for.

The Commission strives to be an open, transparent authority and I trust that this information satisfies your request.

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: https://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/freedom-information/make-a-freedom-information-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

Information Officer
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The Electoral Commission
electoralcommission.org.uk