From: FOI
To: [redacted]
Subject: FOI 185/18 - Party de-registration - response
Date: 03 December 2018 11:05:56

Dear [redacted],

Our Ref: FOI 185/18

Thank you for your email to the Electoral Commission dated **22 November 2018.**

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.

1. How many parties have been de-registered despite sending in an annual confirmation of party details?

2. What reasons were given for not accepting receipt of these 'notifications'?

As explained in our email to you on 26 November 2018, the other questions in your request of 22 November 2018 are not properly constituted requests under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. This is because, as we explain below, the premise of your request is not correct.

Our response is as follows:

We hold the information you have requested.

1. How many parties have been de-registered despite sending in an annual confirmation of party details?

The answer is none.

Section 32 of the Political Parties, Elections and Referendums Act 2000 sets out the requirements for a confirmation of registered particulars. By definition, anything delivered that does not comply with those requirements is not a confirmation of registered particulars.

Where we do not receive a confirmation of registered particulars in line with s 32 by the relevant deadline, the party is removed from the register in accordance with s 33 of PPERA. This is a duty placed on the Commission and not a discretionary decision.

You can search for deregistered parties on our website. Where their status is marked ‘statutorily deregistered’, it means they have been removed from the register because they did not deliver a confirmation of registered particulars

pursuant to s 32.

2. What reasons were given for not accepting receipt of these 'notifications'?

As explained above, no parties have been deregistered where we did receive a confirmation of registered particulars pursuant to s 32.

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]
Access to Information Officer (FOI and DPA)

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