

From: [FOI](#)
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: FOI 194/18 - Response
Date: 17 January 2019 16:30:57

Dear [REDACTED],

Our Ref: FOI 194/18

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

The Commission aims to respond to requests for information promptly and regrets that we have not done so within the statutory timeframe of twenty working days.

Your request is in bold below followed by our response.

- 1. Please tell me where I can get a list of all hospitality our gifts accepted by placeholders of all levels employed by the 'Electoral Commission'.**

Our response is as follows:

We hold the information you have requested.

The information you have requested is exempt under section 22 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. Section 22 provides for an exemption where the information is intended for future publication.

Section 22 is a qualified exemption which requires the public interest to be considered. We have considered whether it would be in the public interest for us to provide you with the information ahead of its publication, however, in his case, we conclude that the public interest favours withholding the information.

These minutes must be approved before we can make them publically available

Details of gifts and hospitality are discussed at the Audit Committee and are made available on our website thereafter.

Audit Committee meeting minutes:

<https://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/our-work/who-we-are/governance-and-decision-making/audit-committee>

Details of gifts and hospitality publications:

https://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/search?query=hospitality+and+gifts&daat=on&collection=electoral-commission&form=simple-redesign&profile=_default_preview&isadvanced=false&context=en

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]

[REDACTED]

Access to Information Officer (FOI and DPA)

The Electoral Commission

FOI@electoralcommission.org.uk

electoralcommission.org.uk