

[REDACTED]

---

**From:** FOI  
**Sent:** 29 November 2018 11:36  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** FOI 171/18 - Response

Dear [REDACTED],

**Our Ref: FOI 171/18**

Thank you for your email to the Electoral Commission dated **02 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. Could you please let me know the dates of all meetings and correspondences the chairman of the Electoral Commission had with Mark Sedwill.**
- 2. Please indicate whether any other Electoral Commission staff have had contact with Mark Sedwill or his staff since the Brexit vote, indicating whether it was before or after his appointment as Cabinet Secretary.**
- 3. Please would you tell me the most that can be disclosed about the nature and reasons for these correspondences and meetings between Electoral Commission officers and the office or person of Mark Sedwill.**
- 4. Could you please let me know the dates of all meetings and correspondences the chairman of the Electoral Commission had with Mark Malloch-Brown.**

Our response is as follows:

**We hold the information you have requested.**

**The dates of all meetings and correspondence between the Chair of the Electoral Commission and Sir Mark Sedwill:**

30 January 2018

Sir John Holmes, Chair of the Electoral Commission, met Sir Mark Sedwill, National Security Advisor, to discuss security issues affecting elections.

3 August 2018

Sir John Holmes received a letter from Sir Mark Sedwill, Acting Cabinet Secretary and National Security Adviser in relation to security and the electoral process.

16 August 2018

Sir John Holmes responded to Sir Mark Sedwill's letter of 3 August 2018.

**Contact between Electoral Commission staff and Mark Sedwill or his staff:**

15 November 2017

Bob Posner, Director of Political Finance and Regulation and Legal Counsel at the Electoral Commission, sent a letter to Sir Mark Sedwill about our work on digital campaigning.

12 December 2017

Sir Mark Sedwill's responded to Bob Posner's letter about digital campaigning.

**Dates of all meetings and correspondence between the Chair of the Electoral Commission and Lord Mark Malloch-Brown**

7 March 2018

Sir John Holmes met Lord Malloch-Brown to discuss the UN and humanitarian issues, touching on Lord Malloch-Brown's role as Chair of SGO and its smartmatic voting machines.

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 signature]

[Redacted name]

Access to Information Officer (FOI and DPA)

**The Electoral Commission**

[FOI@electoralcommission.org.uk](mailto:FOI@electoralcommission.org.uk)

[electoralcommission.org.uk](http://electoralcommission.org.uk)