

[REDACTED]

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**From:** FOI  
**Sent:** 05 July 2016 09:56  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** FOI 79/16 - EU Referendum Voting Period extension

Dear [REDACTED],

**Our Ref: FOI 79/16**

Thank you for your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 dated 10<sup>th</sup> June 2016.

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.

You have requested:

**I wish to know who the following information concerning the EU Referendum voting period extension:**

- 1. Who in HM Government consulted the Electoral Commission regarding extending the EU Referendum to 9th June 2016, and if so, which bodies were consulted?**
- 2. What is the text of the consultation from HM Government regarding extending the EU Referendum to 9th June 2016?**
- 3. What is the text of any response to any government consultation requests regarding extending the EU Referendum to 9th June 2016?**

Our response is as follows:

We believe that the extension you are referring to is the extension to the deadline for registering to vote in the EU Referendum (rather than the 'voting period extension' mentioned in your request). The UK Government proposed to extend the registration deadline from midnight on 7 June to midnight on 9 June, and the legislation providing for the extension was voted on and agreed by both Houses of Parliament on 9 June 2016.

In answer to your questions:

1. The UK Government Cabinet Office consulted the Electoral Commission about the extension of the deadline to register to vote in the EU Referendum. The second part of your question asks which bodies were consulted. The Electoral Commission is the only organisation that is required by law to be consulted, according to section 4(6) of the European Union Referendum Act 2015. You would need to ask the UK Government about any non-statutory consultations with other bodies.

2. The text of the consultation was the draft statutory instrument *The EU Referendum (Enabling Voter Registration by 9 June) Regulations 2016*, which was emailed to the Commission on 8 June prior to being laid in Parliament later that same day.
3. The Commission has already published its response to the consultation as part of a written briefing to be sent to all MPs and Peers before the Parliamentary debate on the draft regulations held on 9 June. The Commission's response is available on our website [here](#).

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

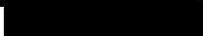
If you are not satisfied with this response, please note that the Commission operates a review procedure, details of which can be found on the Commission website at: <http://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/about-us/freedom-of-information-requests/how-do-i-make-an-foi-request>

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: <http://www.ico.gov.uk>

Yours sincerely

  
**Information Adviser (Records Management)**

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[www.aboutmyvote.co.uk](http://www.aboutmyvote.co.uk)

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