

15 November 2023

IC-267122-Q6B9

Request

- 1. A copy of the complaint made by Nigel Farage to the ICO relating to DPA breaches involving Coutts/1nat West Bank [sic] and the now former CEO of Nat West Bank.*
- 2. A copy of the response of the ICO to the complaint of Nigel Farage.*
- 3. Given the very recent publication of the report prepared by solicitors Travers Smith Solicitors into the DPA breaches then are the ICO now going to carry out an investigation or further related investigation ?*

Your request, received on 27 October 2023, has been handled under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (the FOIA).

Response

I can confirm that we hold some information in scope of your request.

We handled a complaint by Nigel Farage about NatWest Bank. The complaint and the outcome letter is withheld under section 40(2) of the FOIA.

Section 40(2) of the FOIA exempts information if it is personal data belonging to an individual other than the requester and it satisfies one of the conditions listed in the legislation.

We find that the condition at section 40(3A)(a) applies in this instance: that disclosure would breach one of the data protection principles. The principles are outlined in the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) with the relevant principle on this occasion being the first principle as provided by Article 5(1): that personal data shall be processed lawfully, fairly and in a transparent manner.

We do not consider that disclosing this information into the public domain is necessary or justified. We acknowledge that certain details of the complaint and outcome has received some media attention. However, we do not find that this override the prejudice to the rights and freedoms of

the relevant data subjects. We have therefore taken the decision that disclosing this information would be unlawful, triggering the exemption at section 40(2) of the FOIA.

To the extent that the third point constitutes a request for recorded information, we can confirm that an investigation was carried out into the incident and was closed with an outcome of 'no further action'. There are no plans to revisit the matter.

This concludes our response to your request.

FOI review procedure

If you are dissatisfied and wish to request a review of our decision or make a complaint about how your request has been handled you should write to the Information Access Team at the address below or e-mail icoaccessinformation@ico.org.uk.

Your request for internal review should be submitted to us within 40 working days of receipt by you of this response. Any such request received after this time will only be considered at the discretion of the Commissioner.

If having exhausted the review process you are not content that your request or review has been dealt with correctly, you have a further right of appeal to this office in our capacity as the statutory complaint handler under the legislation.

To make such an application, please write to our Customer Contact Team at the address given or visit our website if you wish to make a complaint under the FOIA.

Your information

Please note that our [Privacy notice](#) explains what we do with the personal data you provide to us and what your rights are. This includes entries regarding the specific purpose and legal basis for the ICO processing information that people that have provided us with, such as an [information requester](#).

The length of time we keep information is laid out in our retention schedule, which can be found [here](#).

Yours sincerely



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ico.org.uk twitter.com/iconews

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see our [privacy notice](#)**