

18 July 2023

## **ICO Case Reference IC-240426-C8D9**

### **Request for information**

Request received 24 June 2023:

*"When did the ICO the regulatory relationship with the Parliamentary and Health Service Ombudsman start?"*

This was clarified on 3 July 2023 as follows:

*"I refer to the regulation of the ICO as described at <https://ico.org.uk/make-a-complaint/complaints-and-compliments-about-us/complain-about-us/>*

*'Taking your complaint further*

*If, having exhausted our service complaint procedure, you remain dissatisfied about any aspect of any service you have received from us or think we have not acted properly or fairly, you can take the matter to the Parliamentary and Health Service Ombudsman.*

*Complaints to the Ombudsman must be made through your MP. For further information about the Ombudsman's service please visit their website ([www.ombudsman.org](http://www.ombudsman.org)) or call their helpline on 0345 015 4033.'*

*When did this regulatory arrangement start."*

Your request has been handled under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (the FOIA). As you are aware, this legislation provides public access to recorded information held by a public authority unless an appropriate exemption applies.

### **Our response**

We do not hold any information in scope of your request. The ICO does not hold recorded information that states when this regulatory arrangement began.

## **Advice and Assistance**

As you can see on this [ICO timeline](#), the ICO came in to existence in 2001, having previously been the office of the Data Protection Registrar, then the office of the Data Protection Commissioner.

The [Parliamentary Commissioner Act 1967 \(legislation.gov.uk\)](#) grants powers to the Parliamentary Commissioner for Administration (the Parliamentary Ombudsman). This statutory role combines with the Health Service Commissioner for England (Health Service Ombudsman) to make up the Parliamentary and Health Service Ombudsman (PHSO).

[Section 4](#) of the 1967 act explains the types of authorities, government departments, corporations and unincorporated bodies that the Parliamentary Ombudsman can investigate. This includes the Information Commissioner.

The PHSO has also provided a summary of amendments and other legislation affecting its powers on its website at [Legislation for the Parliamentary Ombudsman](#).

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 [accessicoinformation@ico.org.uk](mailto:accessicoinformation@ico.org.uk).

Your request for internal review should be submitted to us within 40 working days of your receipt of this response. Any such request received after this time will be considered only 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 FOI Complaints and Compliance team at the address given, or visit our website at [Official information concern | ICO](#).

## **Your information**

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

The length of time we keep information is laid out in our [retention and disposal policy](#).

Yours sincerely

Information Access Team

Risk and Governance Department

Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF

T. 0303 123 1113 F. 01625 524510 [ico.org.uk](http://ico.org.uk) [twitter.com/iconews](https://twitter.com/iconews)

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