

1 September 2023

IC-250796-J6Q8

Request

We received your request on 10 August. You asked for the following information:

A copy of any letter sent by Home Office officials, or the minister Chris Philp, to the ICO on the effects of retail crime since 1st March 2023

N.b - this letter was likely sent in relation to the ICO's Facewatch investigation

Your request has been handled under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (the FOIA). As you are probably 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 within the scope of your request. The ICO has not received a letter from either the Home Office or Chris Philip in regard to retail crime or our Facewatch investigation.

However, by way of advice and assistance, we did have some informal discussions with the Home Office about Facewatch during the course of our regular engagement with them and have disclosed, as far as we are able to, copies of our correspondence with them about the matter in response to another request, this response can be found on our disclosure log [here](#).

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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