

Date: 14 July 2023

IC-239653-C0G6

Request

You asked us:

"I submitted an FOI request in November last year, requesting disclosure of the equality impact assessment (which you appear to be calling 'PEIA') relating to the ICO's framework to prioritize FOI complaints.

The response I received at the time (case reference IC-202740-X3C7) was that a 'PEIA' had not been conducted yet because the framework was still under consultation.

It appears that, following the consultation, the ICO is now going ahead with its plans ([ICO to prioritise Freedom of Information complaints with significant public interest | ICO](#)) and that you started implementing the approach from April this year.

Therefore, as the approach is now live, can I please request disclosure under FOIA of the equality impact assessment (or 'PEIA' to use ICO terminology) the ICO conducted in relation to the FOI prioritization framework to assess the equality impact on protected characteristics of its new approach?"

We received your request on 20 June 2023. We have handled your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (the FOIA).

Our response

You have requested a copy of the EQIA we conducted for the FOI prioritisation process. I can confirm that we did not conduct an EQIA for the FOI prioritisation process and therefore no information is held.

For further context, we did not deem it necessary to complete an EQIA because the consultation provided us with valuable feedback which allowed us to make

changes to the prioritisation criteria – in particular the requester based criteria. Further, there was no intention to treat the handling of any cases differently, with the exception that some might receive prioritised allocation. The FOI prioritisation framework is part of the Better FOI project, and it is being continually reviewed to ensure it functions appropriately and remains fit for purpose.

As an aside, you may be interested to know that when we do conduct an EQIA for a project or programme of work, we proactively publish these on our website. You can find them here, for future reference: [Equality Impact Assessments | ICO](#).

This concludes our response to your request.

Next steps

You can ask us to review our response. Please let us know in writing if you want us to carry out a review. Please do so within 40 working days.

You can read a copy of our full review procedure [here](#).

If we perform a review but you are still dissatisfied, you can complain to the ICO as regulator of the FOIA. This complaint will be handled just like a complaint made to the ICO about any other public authority.

You can [raise a complaint through our website](#).

Your information

Our [Privacy notice](#) explains what we do with the personal data you provide to us, and set out your rights. Our retention schedule can be found [here](#).

Yours sincerely



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