

HOLLESLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Mrs Judi Hallett, *Clerk to the Council*Manor Farm, Hollesley, Woodbridge Suffolk IP12 3NB

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25th September 2020

Mr Joseph Findlay Disclosure Team Ministry of Justice 102 Petty France London SW1H 9AJ

Dear Mr Findlay,

Re: Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Request – 200805015

Thank you for your letter dated 28th August 2020. Your letter was discussed at Hollesley Parish Council's (HPC) meeting on 17th September 2020. Having discussed your letter, HPC's councillors have instructed me to write to you stating that they are not satisfied with the response you have provided on behalf of the Ministry of Justice (MoJ).

You stated in your letter that, "In accordance with section 14(2) of the FOIA, the MoJ is not required to reply to you, if any substantially similar or identical request is received within a reasonable time period since complying with your original request".

I have reproduced, below, a section from the Information Commissioner's Office guidance on Section 14(2) of the Freedom of Information Act.

"This means that Section 14(2) may only be applied when **all three** of the following criteria have been fulfilled;

- the request is identical or substantially similar to a previous request from the same requester;
- <u>the authority has previously provided the information to the requester</u> or confirmed that it is not held in response to the earlier FOIA request; and
- a reasonable interval has not elapsed between the new request and compliance with the previous request."

I have underlined a part of this guidance which appears to be relevant to this matter. If the MoJ has previously supplied the 'Operational Assessment' to HPC (i.e. the requester) I should inform you that it has never been received. As such, I would appreciate it if you could supply me with a further copy of this document, at your earliest convenience, so that I can pass it on to HPC'S councillors for their consideration.

Many thanks.

Kind regards,

Judí Hallett

Clerk to Hollesley Parish Council