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REDACTED

From: REDACTED
 Sent: 20 July 2017 13:03
 To: REDACTED REDACTED
 Cc: REDACTED REDACTED
 Subject: Jonathan Dando; James Westhead; REDACTED
 Attachments: RE: Freedom of Information Request - Teach First
 Enclosures (3 documents).zip; Scotland - FOISA Response - 20 July 17.pdf

Dear REDACTED,

Please find attached our response to your email to Jonathan this morning.

Kind regards,
REDACTED

REDACTED

Teachfirst

From: REDACTED

Sent: 20 July 2017 10:31
 To: Jonathan Dando <JDando@teachfirst.org.uk>; REDACTED
 Cc: James Westhead <iwesthead@teachfirst.org.uk>; REDACTED
 Subject: RE: Freedom of Information Request - Teach First
 Importance: High

Dear Jonathan,

Thank you for your email and apologies for missing your call this morning. I'm afraid I will not be able to join a call to discuss this matter today.

As set out in my original letter, this consultation on the FOi is a courtesy, not a statutory obligation, and Teach First do not have a veto on disclosure of the information. Under the terms of the FOISA, the decision on whether or not to release information is for the Scottish Government alone. We will however take account of your views, so if you can provide information on the specific items/aspects causing concerns, we will consider these.

My role as a reviewer of this case is to consider the information held carefully, and to assess whether an exemption under FOISA applies to that information, and if applicable, the public interest in disclosure is outweighed by the public interest in upholding the exemption.

Regards,
REDACTED

REDACTED



From: Jonathan Dando [<mailto:JDando@teachfirst.org.uk>]
Sent: 19 July 2017 17:33
To: REDACTED REDACTED
Cc: James Westhead
Subject: RE: Freedom of Information Request - Teach First

Dear REDACTED REDACTED

I just wanted to pick up the below as James is away this week. Would it be possible to speak tomorrow morning to go through this

I can be contacted on REDACTED

With many thanks
Jonathan

Jonathan Dando
Associate Director - Press, Policy, and Public Affairs
Direct line – REDACTED
Twitter: [@jonathan_dando](https://twitter.com/jonathan_dando)

TeachFirst

From: <REDACTED>
Date: 19 July 2017 15:31:57 BST
To: <jwesthead@teachfirst.org.uk>
Cc: <REDACTED>
Subject: RE: Freedom of Information Request - Teach First

Dear James

Thanks for your detailed letter. I will respond on the Review element alone, but am copying in Scott who is dealing with the other but related FOi request, and he'll liaise with you directly.

The scope of the review and indeed the original request touches on several types of information provided by or in relation to Teach First. A list of the information already provided can be found below:

- Email from Peter Duncan (TF) to Stuart Robb (SG) re organising a phone call on 13.03.17
- Email from James Westhead (TF) to Deputy First Minister following up meeting on 18.01.17
- Email from REDACTED (TF) to REDACTED (SG) re brief on Teach First on 23.12.16
- Scottish Government note of meeting with Teach First on 26 August 2016
- Email from David Roy (SG) to Jonathan Dando (TF) following up 26 August 2016 meeting
- Letter from First Minister to Paul Drechsler (TF) sent on 21.05.16
- Emails arranging meeting between SG officials and Teach First on 04.04.16
- Letter from First Minister's office to Brett Wigdortz re meeting sent on 30.04.15
- Letter from Brett Wigdortz requesting meeting sent on 13.02.15
- James Westhead (TF) to Ian Mitchell (SG) re note of meeting of 25 February 2014 on 01.03.14

- Letter from Cabinet Secretary to Brett Wigdortz following up meeting sent on 20.02.14
- Letter from Cabinet Secretary re: meeting sent on 01.09.13
- Letter from Cabinet Secretary to REDACTED (TF) re invite to reception sent on 04.07.12
- Email from REDACTED re invite to reception sent on 25.06.13
- Letter from Cabinet Secretary to Brett Wigdortz re invite to reception sent on 01.05.12
- Email from Brett Wigdortz to Cab Sec re invite to reception sent on 05.04.12
- Letter from Cabinet Secretary to REDACTED (TF) re a meeting sent on 15.02.12
- Email from REDACTED (TF) requesting a meeting sent on 11.01.12
- Report by Education Scotland on Teach First
- Email from REDACTED (SG) to REDACTED (TF) re: funding enquiry sent on 15.06.10
- Email from REDACTED (TF) to REDACTED (SG) re background info on Teach First sent on 10.06.10
- Letter from Cabinet Secretary to Prof Blandford (TF) re a meeting request sent on 31.03.10
- Email from Prof Blandford (TF) requesting a meeting sent on 16.03.10
- Letter from REDACTED (SG) to REDACTED about a meeting request sent on 09.02.09
- Email request for a meeting sent on 03.02.09

You may also wish to note that details of FOi disclosures made by the Scottish Government, where the material is new or of wider interest, are routinely published on our website. It is envisaged that the original response will shortly be made available on the site.

In respect of the information which we are proposing to release under the terms of the review, this does include excerpts of some of the documents referred to in your letter. Elements of these documents may be subject to redactions under Section 30 (c) **rather than** Section 33 (1) (b), which is much more difficult to justify. In order for us to better understand your request for these documents to be withheld, can you tell us more about what harm there would be in releasing this information please?

Thanks
REDACTED

REDACTED



From: James Westhead [<mailto:jwesthead@teachfirst.org.uk>]
Sent: 17 July 2017 17:37
To: REDACTED
Subject: RE: Freedom of Information Request - Teach First

Dear REDACTED,

Please find attached a response to your letter dated 12th July, ref: FOI/17/01247.

Best

James

James Westhead
Executive Director
Direct line - 020 3862 8011, Mobile - 07711 796 263

From: REDACTED

Sent: 12 July 2017 15:34

To: James Westhead <iwesthead@teachfirst.org.uk>

Cc: REDACTED REDACTED REDACTED

Subject: Freedom of Information Request - Teach First

Importance: High

Please see attached letter. Grateful for a response before Monday 17 July please.

Many thanks

REDACTED

REDACTED



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Dh'fhaodadh gum bi teachdaireachd sam bith bho Riaghaltas na h-Alba air a chlaradh neo air a sgrUdadh airson dearbhadh gu bheil an siostam ag obair gu h-eifeachdach neo airson adhbhar laghail eile. Dh'fhaodadh nach eil beachdan anns a' phost-d seo co-ionann ri beachdan Riaghaltas na h-Alba,

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20th July 2017

Dear REDACTED,

Ref: FOI/17/01460; FOI/17/01247;

We write further to your correspondence with James Westhead and Jonathan Dando regarding the freedom of information requests mentioned above.

We appreciate that the Scottish Government is subject to transparency obligations, and recognise that your approach must balance the public interest with any individual or organisational interests in the release or withholding of information. We additionally appreciate the courtesy you have shown us in consulting with us prior to disclosure.

We would like to reiterate our concerns about the release of unredacted documents into the public domain. Our concern focuses predominantly on the release of information about Teach First's current plans for a Scottish programme, in particular our projected programme design, programme philosophy and partnership structures. Our concerns are that:

- 1) Release of this information will fundamentally hamper Teach First's ability to submit a competitive bid for any forthcoming tender for an initial teacher training route in Scotland, by making our planned approach a matter of public record. As you know, we deliver a programme which meets similar (although non-identical) needs in England and Wales, and as such our planned approach in a Scottish context would, we think, be of significant interest to potential competitors. Releasing our confidential information will weaken our competitive edge. This leads to our second concern:
- 2) Release of this information will jeopardise the Scottish government's ability to undertake a truly competitive procurement process, by reducing the ability of one bidder (namely Teach First) to develop a programme of which other bidders are unaware.

As a result, we believe that sections 33(1)(b) and 30(c) are both relevant exemptions from disclosure under the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002, which should be taken into account when determining the information which should be disclosed.

In addition, we would be grateful if the names and any further personal data of all Teach First employees could be removed from any documents released pursuant to these requests.

We have reviewed the documents which you intend to release, and have highlighted in the enclosures to this letter the sections which we particularly believe to raise the concerns voiced in points 1 and 2 above. We would like to request that highlighted sections be considered for redaction prior to the publication of these documents. As you will see we have tried to be as restrained as possible in our suggested redactions, focusing on information which we believe would particularly hinder our bid if made publicly available prior to the release of a tender, because they expose our pre-bid planning. We would be extremely grateful if your team could consider redacting these sections prior to their release, and could let us know the outcome of this determination.

Ref: Documents already released

In correspondence with Johnathan Dando (19th July 2017, email at 15:31 BST), you indicated that certain communications between the Scottish Government and Teach First had already been placed on the public record. We would be grateful for the following clarifications on these documents:

- a) At a higher level, whether there was a policy decision to release these prior to consultation with Teach First and whether any other disclosures have been made within the past 6 months of which we should be aware;
- b) to be provided with the text of the documents released; and
- c) finally, an assurance that personal data (including names, titles and contact details including personal phone numbers) relating to Teach First employees, in particular those working at a non-executive level, has not been released into the public domain.

We look forward to hearing from you at your earliest convenience.

Regards,

REDACTED

Teach First -Legal