

HOUSE OF LORDS
APPOINTMENTS COMMISSION
Room G/38, 1 Horse Guards Road, London SW1A 2HQ
General Enquiries: 07872 828699
Internet: <http://lordsappointments.independent.gov.uk>
E-mail: enquiry@lordsappointments.gov.uk

Ref: HOLAC FOI 2023/13

24 July 2023

By email: [REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT REQUEST

I am replying to your Freedom of Information request, which the House of Lords Appointments Commission (the Commission) received on 27 June 2023.

You asked:

Since 2010, how many times has the Commission approved the nomination of an individual for a peerage, who has not subsequently been recommended to the Monarch for a peerage by the Prime Minister?

We are writing to advise you that following a search of our paper and electronic records, we have established that the information you requested is **not held** by the House of Lords Appointments Commission (HOLAC).

I have interpreted your request as one for information about instances when the Commission has written to the Prime Minister stating that it is able to support a nomination, as the Commission is advisory and does not have the powers to 'approve' proposed nominations.

The role of the Commission is to vet nominations for life peers, including those nominated by the UK political parties for probity and provide advice to the Prime Minister. It vets names submitted to it and either says it sees no reason why an individual should not be appointed (supports) or draws any probity concerns to the Prime Minister's attention. HOLAC's assessment is advisory and it is a matter for the Prime Minister to decide whether to accept the advice of the Commission and recommend individuals to the Monarch.

HOLAC would hold information relating to individuals that it has vetted, but does not hold any further information on the process after this point.

This request would be more appropriately directed to No.10 (<https://contact.no10.gov.uk/>), who would hold the information on which nominations were vetted by HOLAC and subsequently not recommended by the Prime Minister to the Monarch.

If you are unhappy with this response to your request, you may write to the Secretary to the Commission, Alison Bennett, to ask for an internal review by another person not involved with this request. Please note that we will not normally accept an application for internal review if it is received more than two months after the date that the reply was issued.

If you are not content with the outcome of your internal review, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision.

Generally, the Commissioner cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the complaints procedure provided by HOLAC.

The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

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

Yours sincerely,

Secretariat to the House of Lords Appointments Commission