

**HOUSE OF LORDS**  
**APPOINTMENTS COMMISSION**  
Room G/38, 1 Horse Guards Road, London SW1A 2HQ  
General Enquiries: 07355 021 584  
Internet: <http://lordsappointments.independent.gov.uk>  
E-mail: [enquiry@lordsappointments.gov.uk](mailto:enquiry@lordsappointments.gov.uk)

**Ref: HOLAC FOI 2024/10**

18 July 2024

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 1 July 2024.

You asked:

*“Please can you tell me what the basis was for the Appointment Commission to approve Boris Johnson's nomination of Charlotte Owen as Baroness of Alderley Edge and elevation to the House of Lords. As you well know, and is in the public domain, Ms Owen had served no significant public service to warrant such an award. Specifically, I wish to know what weight was given to this nomination and how was it justified by the Commission.”*

The Commission has previously responded to a number of Freedom of Information requests regarding the appointment of Baroness Owen relating to *why* she was awarded a peerage. Specifically, I would direct you to [FOI2024/3](#) on the Commission's FOI page, in which we were asked for a “clear and concise explanation as to why Charlotte Owen received her Life Peerage”. It is our position that these questions are seeking the same information, and hence our response is the same. We consider this information to therefore be exempt under Section 21(1) of the Freedom of Information Act, which states that “Information which is reasonably accessible to the applicant otherwise than under section 1 is exempt information.”

If you are unhappy with this response to your request, you may write to the Secretary to the Commission, Clare Brunton, 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 the Commission.

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**