

**HOUSE OF LORDS
APPOINTMENTS COMMISSION**

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Ref: HOLAC FOI 2020/1
ICO ref: IC-42774-T8X3

18 January 2022

By email: <REDACTED>

Dear <REDACTED>,

I refer to your Freedom of Information request (HOLAC FOI 2020/1) in which you requested information regarding the vetting of political nominees.

In light of the Information Commissioner's Office's (ICO) decision dated 1 December 2021 (decision Notice IC-42774-T8X3), we attach the following documents as annexures to this letter.

- Annex A: House of Lords Appointments Commission guidance on political donations; and
- Annex B: An internal briefing note on the process for vetting party political nominees.

We will be publishing Annex A (the guidance on political donations) on the House of Lords Appointments Commission (the Commission) website.

Please note that Annex B is an internal Cabinet Office briefing note which was not endorsed or reviewed by the Commission, and does not reflect the Commission's current processes.

Redactions to documents

Certain redactions have been made to the above documents in accordance with the Information Commissioner's Decision Notice.

However, in addition, the following parts of the documents have been redacted on the basis that the Commission will be shortly appealing against the release of that material to the First Tier Tribunal. The information redacted for these purposes is:

- Paragraph four of Annex A: House of Lords Appointments Commission guidance on Political Donations;

- The final part of the second paragraph three (actual paragraph five) of Annex B: An internal briefing note on the process for vetting party political nominees; and
- Part of the second paragraph two (actual paragraph four) of Annex B: An internal briefing note on the process for vetting party political nominees.

Separately, in addition to the above, and with the agreement of the ICO, a redaction has also been made at the end of the main body of Annex B to remove personal data.

I hope you find this useful.

Yours sincerely

<REDACTED>

Secretary to the House of Lords Appointments Commission