

The UK's independent public spending watchdog

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Reference FOI-1568

Date 25 November 2022

THE CROWN ESTATE PROPERTY LEASES

Thank you for your email of 4 November 2022 in relation to the National Audit Office (NAO)'s memorandum on The Crown Estate – Property leases with the Royal family, published on 7 April 2005. You requested:

- Complete copies of the documents held by the NAO that related to the research, compiling and writing
 of this report;
- Complete copies of the correspondence between the NAO and The Crown Estate, and between the NAO and the Rural Payments Agency that related to the research, compiling and writing of this report;
- Complete copies of the minutes, agenda and associated documents of meetings between the NAO
 and The Crown Estate, and between the NAO and the Rural Payments Agency related to the
 research, compiling and writing of this report;

Your request is being handled under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

Having searched our audit records and archives, we can confirm that we do not hold information within the scope of your request. Any information we held would have been destroyed in accordance with our <u>records</u> <u>retention and disposal schedules</u>, which for this type of material is six years following publication of the report.

We are sorry that we are unable to help you on this occasion. Annex A sets out the steps you may wish to take if you are not satisfied with the way we have handled your request for information under the FOIA.

Yours sincerely

NAO FOI team



Annex A

Statement of Policy

Our policy is to respond to requests made under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 as helpfully and promptly as possible, having regard to the principles set out in the Act. I therefore hope you are happy with the way we have handled your request. If you are not, then you should take the following steps.

In the first instance, within 40 working days, write to the National Audit Office Freedom of Information (FOI) Team at FOI.requests@nao.org.uk or by post to:

FOI Team, Green 2, National Audit Office, 157-197 Buckingham Palace Road, London, SW1W 9SP

The Head of FOI will arrange a review, which will be conducted by a senior member of staff who was not involved in decisions relating to your original request. Once the review has been completed, we will write informing you of the outcome.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

https://ico.org.uk/

or

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