



Home Office

Immigration Enforcement  
FOI & PQ Team  
Sandford House  
41 Homer Road  
Solihull  
B91 3QJ

Sophia Akram  
[sophiaakram@googlemail.com](mailto:sophiaakram@googlemail.com)

[www.gov.uk/home-office](http://www.gov.uk/home-office)

28 February 2017

Dear Ms Akram

**Re: Freedom of Information – 42736 (was 42713)**

Thank you for your e-mails of 25 January and 1 February, in which you ask for information regarding deportations from the UK and clarified your request. Your request is being handled as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Specifically you have asked:

*My query involves mass deportations planned over the next month. I would like to know if there are any chartered flights planned over January and February to deport immigrants from the UK and to where they are going.*

And clarified:

*I would like to know desegregated figures for both removals and deportations*

It has been decided that the information you have requested is exempt from disclosure under section 31(1) (e) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Section 31(1) (e) of the Act allows us to exempt information if its disclosure would, or would be likely to, prejudice the operation of the immigration controls. In this case, release of the requested information may allow conclusions to be drawn about the planning of Home Office charter flight operations. Disclosing this information would have an effect on the Home Office's ability to carry out returns and would directly prejudice the operation of immigration controls.

We have considered the public interest that there may be in disclosing the information requested. Disclosure of this information into the public domain would provide transparency on the planning of Home Office charter flight operations.

We have also considered the public interest that there may be in maintaining the exemption to the duty to communicate. Non-disclosure would allow the Home Office to ensure it can affect the return of those with no lawful basis of stay in the UK and maintain effective immigration controls.



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We have considered whether in all the circumstances the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information requested. We have concluded that the balance of public interest identified lies in favour of maintaining the exemption as providing the requested information could result in placing such operations a risk of disruption. This would then directly prejudice the Home Office's ability to return those with no lawful basis of stay in the UK and to maintain effective immigration controls.

However I am able to provide the details of those charter operations in January and February that have already taken place:

Date	Destination
12/01/2017	Albania
17/01/2017	Pakistan
31/01/2017	Nigeria and Ghana
09/02/2017	Albania

If you are dissatisfied with this response you may request an independent internal review of our handling of your request by submitting a complaint within two months to the address below, quoting reference **42736**. If you ask for an internal review, it would be helpful if you could say why you are dissatisfied with the response.

Information Access Team  
Home Office  
3rd Floor, Peel Building  
2 Marsham Street  
London SW1P 4DF  
E-mail: [info.access@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:info.access@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk)

As part of any internal review the Department's handling of your information request will be reassessed by staff who were not involved in providing you with this response. If you remain dissatisfied after this internal review, you would have a right of complaint to the Information Commissioner as established by section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act.

Yours sincerely

**Immigration Enforcement**  
Freedom of Information & Parliamentary Questions Team