REDACTED

Sent: To: Subject: Attach ments:

James Westhead <jwesthead@teachfirst.org.uk> 17 July 2017 17:32 REDACTED RE: Freedom of Information Request Teach First - Scottish Government FOI Request - FOI1701460.pdf

Dear REDACTED

Please find attached a response to your letter dated 12 July 2017, ref: FOI/17/01460.Best

James

James Westhead Executive Director Direct line -REDACTED

From: REDACTED Sent: 12 July 2017 15:41 To: Ja mes Westhead <jwesthead@teachfi rst.org.u k> Subject: Freedom of Information Request

Please find attached a letter from the Scottish Government.

REDACTED Learning Directorate Scottish Government 2-A South Victoria Quay Edinburgh EH6 6QQ REDACTED Tell us how to make Scottish education even better: <u>www.engageforeducati</u> <u>on.org</u>

This e-mail {and any files or other attachments transmitted with it).is intended solely for the attention of the addressee(s). Unauthorised use, disclosure, storage, copying or 'distribution of any part of this e-mail is not permitted. If you are not the intended recipient please destroy the email, remove any copies from your system and inform the sender inunediately by return.

Communications with the Scottish Government may be monitored or recorded in order to secure the effective operation of the system and for other lawful purposes. The views or opinions contained within this e-mail may not necessarily reflect those of the Scottish Government.

Δ

Tha am post-d seo (agus faidhle neo ceanglan c6rnhla ris) dhan neach neo luchd-ainmichte amhain. Chan eil e ceadaichte a chleachdadh ann an d6igh sam bith, *a'* toirt a-steach c6raichean, foillseachadh neo sgaoileadh, gun chead, Ma 's e is gun d'fhuair sibh seo le gun fhiosd', bu choir cur as dhan phost-d agus lethbhreac sam bith air an t-siostarn agaibh, leig fios chun neach a sgaoil am post-d gun dail.

Dh'fhaodadh gum bi teachdaireachd sam bith bho Riaghaltas na h-Alba air a chlaradh neo air a sgrUdadh airson dearbhadh gu bheil an siostarn ag obair gu h-eifeachdach neo airson adhbhar laghail eile. Oh'fhaodadh nach eil beachdan anns a'phost-d seo co-ionann ri beachdan Riaghaltas na h-Alba.

Teach First Is a charity registered in England and Vales (charity number 1098294); and a company limited by guarantee registered In England and Wales (company registration number 04478840) with its registered off ice at 6 Mitre Passage, London, SE10 OER.

This email has been scanned by the Symantec Email Security.cloud service. For more information please visit <u>htt p://www.syrnanteccloucl.com</u>

••u•u•u••u••u••uouu••

This email has been received from an external party and

has been swept for the presence of computer viruses.

•u••u••uouu••••••uouu••••••uuou•••••

This message is private and confidential, may contain privileged information and may be protected by copyright.

It must not be disclosed to or used by anyone other than the addressee. Any unauthorised use ls strictly prohibited. If you receive this message in error, please advise the sender Immediately and delete all copies and any attachments. The contents of this email including any attachments may contain viruses which could damage your computer system. White Teach First has taken every reasonable precaution to minimise this risk, we cannot accept liability for any damage which you sustain. You should carry out your own virus checks before opening any attachment. All messages sent and received by Teach first may be monitored as permitted by law. Any opinions expressed In this email are solely those of the sender and do not necessarily represent those of Teach First.



REDACTED Learning Directorate Scottish Government 2-A South Victoria Quay Edinburgh EH6 6QQ

Monday 17 July 2017

Dear REDACTED

Re: Response to FOI/17/01460

I am writing in response to your correspondence on 12 July 2017 requesting our view in relation to a Freedom of Information request (FOI/17/01460) within which we have an interest. We also received a similar request from your colleague, REDACTED, under FOI/17/01247. I would ask that you consider both our responses alongside each other, given they pertain to the same information.

According to your letter, the request is for "Copy of the minutes for each of the three meetings between the Scottish Government and Teach First held on 10 January 2017, 21 September 2016 and 26 August 2016, as detailed in Parliamentary Question S5W-09678".

To our knowledge, the documents in question do not exist, and if an official minute of each of these meetings was produced, it was not shared with us. Therefore, without having seen the information that has been requested it is difficult to ascertain the impact of its publication on our organisation, and outline the specific detail which we believe would qualify for exemption.

However, given the detail and the nature of the discussion, we would ask that you consider withholding this information under Part 2, Section 33, Subsection 1(b), under the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 - "Commercial Interests and the Economy". Our view is that this information qualifies for this exemption for two reasons:

- 1. The discussions involved commercially sensitive information in relation to Teach First, including details of our internal processes, and our contractual relationships in other countries and with other governments; and,
- 2. The discussions involved commercially sensitive information in relation to a potential Teach First programme in Scotland. Given that the Scottish Government has announced its intention to tender for a new initial teacher training pathway, we are concerned that publication, interpretation, and comment on this information in the national media will compromise the fairness of the open competition and unfairly prejudice our submission, should we choose to make one.

In addition, we understand that the Scottish Government has to make a judgement on the consideration for exemption alongside public interest. However, in our view it is already widely known and in the public domain that we are interested in working in partnership to deliver a programme in Scotland. This has been extensively reported in the Scottish national media and been subject to scrutiny in the Scottish Parliament. Therefore, on balance we do not see the additional public interest in releasing this additional commercially sensitive information.



Furthermore, we understand that further information in relation to our correspondence and engagement with the Scottish Government prior to 2016 has already been released. We were unaware that a request had been submitted, and would be grateful if you could provide us with a list of the information released.

Additionally, we trust that any disclosures made will be redacted to remove any personal data or sensitive personal data relating to employees, associates or suppliers for Teach First, in line with the Data Protection Act 1998.

Thank you for the courtesy of contacting us on this matter, and for your consideration. We would kindly ask that you inform us as to your decision.

Yours sincerely,

James Westhead

andra

Executive Director Teach First