



Home Office

Direct Communications Unit

2 Marsham Street, London SW1P 4DF

Switchboard 020 7035 4848 Fax: 020 7035 4745 Textphone: 020 7035 4742

E-mail: public.enquiries@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk Website:

www.homeoffice.gov.uk

dmery@acm.org

Mr David Mery

Ref: T3072

Dear Mr Mery

Thank you for your enquiry of 17 February 2009 in relation to terror-related trials.

The Home Office, Ministry of Justice and Attorney General's Office are currently working with the National Coordinator for Terrorist Investigations to improve the quality of data on arrests and convictions under terrorist legislation and those under other legislation but following a terrorist investigation. Once complete, a statistical bulletin to cover information on arrests, charges and convictions will be published. It is anticipated that the statistical bulletin will be published shortly. Subsequent editions of the bulletin will be published on a quarterly basis. The details you require, as mentioned in points 1 & 2 above, will be contained in the statistical bulletin. Please note that the data in the bulletin will show figures up to 31 March 2008 and further publications of the bulletin in 2009 will eventually contain up to date figures.

This approach complies with section 22 of the Freedom of Information Act which provides that information is exempt if "it is held by the public authority with a view to its publication being released at some future date (whether determined or not)".

The Home Office does not hold figures for the number of terrorist trials that have taken place each year since 2005 (as detailed in point 3 above) or are

planned for 2009. I suggest that you direct this enquiry to the Crown Prosecution Service.

Summary details of cases (as detailed in point 4 & 5 above) that have concluded are available in the public domain and are accessible through the internet. The Crown Prosecution Service provides details of some concluded cases on their website. The Home Office does not provide details of ongoing cases as this could give rise to *sub judice* concerns.

With regard to the comments by Ministers concerning the number of terrorist convictions, these figures are collated by Home Office staff and have not been subjected to the quality checks adopted for standard statistical bulletins, and therefore should only be regarded as provisional. Furthermore, the reference to there not being '...a single day in the United Kingdom without a terrorist trial on the timetable' alludes to the fact that since the start of 2009 there have been a number of terrorism trials commencing with several more planned throughout this year. A number of unrelated trials are running concurrently and overall there are reasonable expectations that there will be CT trials ongoing throughout 2009.

If you are dissatisfied with this response you may request an independent internal review of our handling of your request by submitting your complaint within two months to the below address quoting reference **11252**.

Information Rights Team
Information Management Service
Home Office
4th Floor, Seacole Building
2 Marsham Street
London
SW1P 4DF
Email: info.access@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk

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

I hope the above is of use.

Yours sincerely

J FANSHAW



Home Office

Direct Communications Unit

2 Marsham Street, London SW1P 4DF

Switchboard 020 7035 4848 Fax: 020 7035 4745 Textphone: 020 7035 4742

E-mail: public.enquiries@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk Website:

www.homeoffice.gov.uk

dmary@acm.org

Mr David Mery

Ref: T4877/9

Dear Mr Mery

In your email of 17 March 2009 you have asked for clarification of some points raised in my original response.

With regard to point 1 above, the Statistical Bulletin is due to be published shortly, however, a date has not yet been finalised. As pointed out in my original response, the Bulletin will be published on a quarterly basis.

In point 2, you have asked for the number of terrorism trials planned for 2009. The statement in the response of 17 March refers to the fact that there are number of terrorism trials underway with additional trials scheduled to take place throughout 2009. For further information on the number of trials, I suggest that you contact the Crown Prosecution Service directly.

In point 3 you have asked why 'it is a reasonable expectation there will be a high number of CT trials ongoing this year'. The original response did not contain a reference to a 'high number of CT trials ongoing this year'. My response stated that '...since the start of 2009 there have been a number of terrorism trials commencing with several more planned throughout this year. A number of unrelated trials are running concurrently and overall there are reasonable expectations that there will be CT trials ongoing throughout 2009'.

The reasonable expectation of CT trials ongoing throughout 2009 is based on the number of arrests and charges that have been brought under the various Terrorism Acts.

Yours sincerely

J FANSHAW