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Printed from https://www.whatdotheyknow.com/request/emails_leaked_to_the_daily_mail on October 11, 2021 21:31

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Emails leaked to the Daily Mail, relayed to Parliament, Alleging Blackmail by Jeffrey Epstein

[Mark Taylor](#) made this Freedom of Information request to [House of Commons](#)

This request has been **closed to new correspondence from the public body**. [Contact us](#) if you think it ought be re-opened.

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The request was **refused** by [House of Commons](#).

Mark Taylor [7 August 2019](#)

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Dear House of Commons,

This may have to be directed to the Treasury Select Committee, or the information could be found in the email archive of John Mann or Mark Garnier held by Parliament.

On 2nd Nov 2015, The Times reported that the Daily Mail had been leaked emails from Jeffrey Epstein to Parliament or some connected source to blackmail Parliament into accepting Jes Staley as CEO for Barclays. Subsequently in August 2019 it was reported by Bloomberg that Staley had visited Epstein in prison and also on his island, travelling to the latter on Epstein's yacht.

URL for the Times article is here:

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/mps-e...>

In the Daily Mail article John Mann MP and Mark Garnier MP were reported to have told the Daily Mail that Staley ought to face a grilling session as a result of the threats Epstein was alleged to have made to blackmail Parliament to accept his friend Staley as CEO of Barclays.

1. I would like a copy of any email disclosed to Parliament by the Daily Mail that forms the basis of these allegations
2. The recipient list of the emails, and any other meta data in the original copies sent to Parliament or the Treasury Select Committee or its members.

Yours faithfully,
Mark Anthony Taylor

<https://www.foi.gov.uk/foi-commons-house-of-commons-8-august-2019> Link to this [Report](#)
FOI Commons, House of Commons [8 August 2019](#)

Dear Mr Taylor,

Thank you for your request for information dated 8 August 2019, received by us on the same date, which is copied below.

We will endeavour to respond to your request promptly but in any case within 20 working days i.e. on or before 6 September 2019.

If you have any queries about your request, please use the request number quoted in the subject line of this email.

Yours sincerely,

IRIS Officer
Information Rights and Information Security (IRIS) Service | House of
Commons

[1]Supporting a thriving parliamentary democracy

[2]Find out more about the General Data Protection Regulation and its
impact in the first year.

From: Mark Taylor <[FOI #595881 email]>
Sent: 07 August 2019 23:31
To: FOI Commons <[email address]>
Subject: Freedom of Information request - Emails leaked to the Daily Mail,
relayed to Parliament, Alleging Blackmail by Jeffrey Epstein

Dear House of Commons,
This may have to be directed to the Treasury Select Committee, or the
information could be found in the email archive of John Mann or Mark
Garnier held by Parliament.

On 2nd Nov 2015, The Times reported that the Daily Mail had been leaked
emails from Jeffrey Epstein to Parliament or some connected source to
blackmail Parliament into accepting Jes Staley as CEO for Barclays.
Subsequently in August 2019 it was reported by Bloomberg that Staley had
visited Epstein in prison and also on his island, travelling to the latter
on Epstein's yacht.

URL for the Times article is here:
[3]<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/mps-e...>

In the Daily Mail article John Mann MP and Mark Garnier MP were reported
to have told the Daily Mail that Staley ought to face a grilling session
as a result of the threats Epstein was alleged to have made to blackmail
Parliament to accept his friend Staley as CEO of Barclays.

1. I would like a copy of any email disclosed to Parliament by the Daily Mail that forms the basis of these allegations
2. The recipient list of the emails, and any other meta data in the original copies sent to Parliament or the Treasury Select Committee or its members.

Yours faithfully,
Mark Anthony Taylor

Please use this email address for all replies to this request:
[4][FOI #595881 email]

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[6]https://www.whatdotheyknow.com/change_re...

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Please note that in some cases publication of requests and responses will be delayed.

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<https://www.foi.gov.uk/> Link to this [Report](#)
FOI Commons, House of Commons [3 September 2019](#)

Dear Mr Taylor,

Freedom of Information Request F19-395

Thank you for your request for information as copied below. You have asked us for information relating to the alleged threat made to Parliament, which we have sought to answer below.

1. I would like a copy of any email disclosed to Parliament by the Daily Mail that forms the basis of these allegations

and

2. The recipient list of the emails, and any other meta data in the original copies sent to Parliament or the Treasury Select Committee or its members

We can neither confirm nor deny that the House of Commons holds this information. Any information held by the House of Commons relevant to your request is withheld under s.34 of the Freedom of Information Acts 2000 (FOIA).

Section 34 exempts information from disclosure so far as it is required to avoid any infringement of the privileges of the House. Those privileges include the right of any committee of the House to decide whether, when and how to publish information relating to its proceedings. Correspondence on the provision of written or oral evidence and records of the Committee's deliberations other than those published in its formal minutes are therefore exempt information under Section 34 of the Act. This is an absolute exemption and the public interest test does not apply. I am afraid I must therefore refuse that part of your request.

Lastly, it may help you to know that the House hold no records of correspondence sent to Members of Parliament. You may wish to consider contacting the individual Members concerned to ask for the information you seek, contact details are available at:

[1]<http://www.parliament.uk/mps-lords-and-o...> However, Members of Parliament are not public authorities for the purposes of the Freedom of Information Act. This means that they are not obliged to respond to

requests made under the Act. Similarly, the Act does not apply to political parties.

FOI applies to public authorities and both the House of Commons and House of Lords are listed as institutions covered by the Act. In addition, information held by government offices in relation to ministerial activities and responsibilities will also be subject to the Act's provisions. Further information about FOIA and Parliament is available on our website: [2]<http://www.parliament.uk/site-informatio...>

You may, if dissatisfied with the handling of your request complain to the House of Commons. Alternatively, if you are dissatisfied with the outcome of your request you may ask the House of Commons to conduct an internal review of any decision regarding your request. Complaints or requests for internal review should be addressed to: Information Rights and Information Security Service, Research and Information Team, House of Commons London SW1A 0AA or [3][House of Commons request email]. Please ensure that you specify the full reasons for your complaint or internal review along with any arguments or points that you wish to make.

Following an internal review, if the decision to apply section 34 (parliamentary privilege) of the FOIA is upheld, a certificate signed by the Speaker may be issued. This certificate provides conclusive evidence that the exemption was required for the purpose described in our response.

If you remain dissatisfied, you may appeal to the Information Commissioner at Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF, [4]www.ico.gov.uk.

Yours sincerely,

IRIS Officer
Information Rights and Information Security (IRIS) Service | House of Commons

[5]Supporting a thriving parliamentary democracy

[6]Find out more about the General Data Protection Regulation and its impact in the first year.

From: Mark Taylor <[FOI #595881 email]>
Sent: 07 August 2019 23:31
To: FOI Commons <[email address]>
Subject: Freedom of Information request - Emails leaked to the Daily Mail, relayed to Parliament, Alleging Blackmail by Jeffrey Epstein

Dear House of Commons,

This may have to be directed to the Treasury Select Committee, or the information could be found in the email archive of John Mann or Mark Garnier held by Parliament.

On 2nd Nov 2015, The Times reported that the Daily Mail had been leaked emails from Jeffrey Epstein to Parliament or some connected source to blackmail Parliament into accepting Jes Staley as CEO for Barclays. Subsequently in August 2019 it was reported by Bloomberg that Staley had visited Epstein in prison and also on his island, travelling to the latter on Epstein's yacht.

URL for the Times article is here:

[7]<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/mps-e...>

In the Daily Mail article John Mann MP and Mark Garnier MP were reported to have told the Daily Mail that Staley ought to face a grilling session as a result of the threats Epstein was alleged to have made to blackmail Parliament to accept his friend Staley as CEO of Barclays.

1. I would like a copy of any email disclosed to Parliament by the Daily Mail that forms the basis of these allegations
2. The recipient list of the emails, and any other meta data in the original copies sent to Parliament or the Treasury Select Committee or its members.

Yours faithfully,
Mark Anthony Taylor

Please use this email address for all replies to this request:

[8][FOI #595881 email]

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Mark Taylor [7 September 2019](#)
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Dear FOI Commons,

Can you please tell me the individual(s) who gave the order to apply section 34 to my request? I note that no FOI officer signed off the reply to the FOIA response.

Yours sincerely,

Mark Taylor

<https://www.foi.gov.uk/> Link to this [Report](#)
FOI Commons, House of Commons [10 September 2019](#)

Dear Mr Taylor,

Thank you for your email and your further question.

We will be responding to your query shortly.

IRIS Officer
Information Rights and Information Security (IRIS) Service | House of
Commons

[1] Supporting a thriving parliamentary democracy

[2] Find out more about the General Data Protection Regulation and its impact in the first year.

From: Mark Taylor <[FOI #595881 email]>
Sent: 07 September 2019 17:48
To: FOI Commons <[\[email address\]](#)>
Subject: Internal review of Freedom of Information request - Emails leaked to the Daily Mail, relayed to Parliament, Alleging Blackmail by Jeffrey Epstein

Dear FOI Commons,
Can you please tell me the individual(s) who gave the order to apply section 34 to my request? I note that no FOI officer signed off the reply to the FOIA response.

Yours sincerely,

Mark Taylor

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<https://www.> Link to this [Report](#)
FOI Commons, House of Commons [12 September 2019](#)

Dear Mr Taylor,

Thank you for your request for information dated 7 September 2019, received by us on the same date, which is copied below.

We will endeavour to respond to your request promptly but in any case within 20 working days i.e. on or before 4 October 2019.

If you have any queries about your request, please use the request number quoted in the subject line of this email.

Yours sincerely,

IRIS Officer
Information Rights and Information Security (IRIS) Service | House of
Commons

[1]Supporting a thriving parliamentary democracy

[2]Find out more about the General Data Protection Regulation and its impact in the first year.

From: Mark Taylor <[FOI #595881 email]>
Sent: 07 September 2019 17:48
To: FOI Commons <[[email address](#)]>
Subject: New request

Dear FOI Commons,

Can you please tell me the individual(s) who gave the order to apply section 34 to my request? I note that no FOI officer signed off the reply to the FOIA response.

Yours sincerely,

Mark Taylor

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<https://www.foi.gov> Link to this [Report](#)
FOI Commons, House of Commons [26 September 2019](#)

Dear Mr Taylor,

Freedom of Information Request F19-433

Thank you for your request for information as copied below. Further to our response to your original request for information from the Treasury Committee of the House of Commons, you have now asked us to provide you with a name of the “individual(s) who gave the order to apply section 34 to [your] request”, which we have sought to answer below.

Firstly, let us explain that the section 34 exemption in the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) is applied when and only when disclosure would constitute a breach of the privileges of either House of Parliament, in this case the House of Commons, in the shape of one of its committees: the Treasury Committee. A breach of those privileges is commonly referred to as a ‘contempt.’ Erskine May (the authoritative guide on parliamentary procedure) states at para 38.56, ‘Any disclosure of written evidence or a committee’s internal working papers which has not been authorised by the committee may be treated as a contempt.’ Therefore any information which might be held by the Treasury Committee but which it had not itself decided to publish would be exempt under section 34, to protect the Committee’s privilege.

The information you require is held by the House of Commons.

FOIA requests to the House of Commons are answered by the relevant part of the administration, in this case the staff of the Treasury Committee, but

any use of the section 34 exemption is authorised by the Clerk of the Journals, Mark Hutton.

You may, if dissatisfied with the handling of your request complain to the House of Commons. Alternatively, if you are dissatisfied with the outcome of your request you may ask the House of Commons to conduct an internal review of any decision regarding your request. Complaints or requests for internal review should be addressed to: Information Rights and Information Security Service, Research and Information Team, House of Commons London SW1A 0AA or [1][House of Commons request email]. Please ensure that you specify the full reasons for your complaint or internal review along with any arguments or points that you wish to make.

Following an internal review, if the decision to apply section 34 (parliamentary privilege) of the FOIA is upheld, a certificate signed by the Speaker may be issued. This certificate provides conclusive evidence that the exemption was required for the purpose described in our response.

If you remain dissatisfied, you may appeal to the Information Commissioner at Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF, [2]www.ico.gov.uk.

Yours sincerely,

Joanna Antoniewska | IRIS Officer
Information Rights and Information Security (IRIS) Service | House of Commons

Tel: 0207 219 4810 | Text Relay: 18001 219 4810 | Sixth Floor, 14 Tothill St, London SW1H 9NB

[3]Supporting a thriving parliamentary democracy

[4]Find out more about the General Data Protection Regulation and its impact in the first year

From: Mark Taylor <[5][FOI #595881 email]>
Sent: 07 September 2019 17:48
To: FOI Commons <[6][[email address](#)]>
Subject: New request

Dear FOI Commons,
Can you please tell me the individual(s) who gave the order to apply section 34 to my request? I note that no FOI officer signed off the reply to the FOIA response.

Yours sincerely,

Mark Taylor

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