

FOI Centre

Access to public records:

Breakdown of FOI requests, January to March 2009

From 1 January to 31 March 2009 The National Archives received a total of 689¹ FOI requests asking for access to closed documents held in the archive. During this period it responded to 552 cases.

The outcome of these is as follows:

- 310 requests were granted in full
- 108 requests were refused in full
- 48 requests resulted in some information being released and some being redacted
- 86 requests were answered in some other way e.g. the request was a duplicate, it was not relevant or TNA awaits further information from the enquirer
- 39² public interest tests (PITs) were completed for historical records, and passed to a panel of the Advisory Council

The breakdown of exemption use is as follows:

- 27 international relations: 4
- 31 law enforcement: 12
- 32 court records: 22
- 35 policy formulation: 0
- 37 communications with royals 0
- 38 health and safety: 23
- 40 personal data: 161
- 41 provided in confidence: 9
- 42 legal professional privilege 0
- 43 commercial interests: 0

¹ This figure does not represent the total number of files reviewed. For example, during this period one request required the review of 19 files.

² The actual number of PIT forms submitted to a panel may be lower or higher than this figure. This is because some requests and some PIT forms refer to more than one file.