



Cabinet Office

Room 401
70 Whitehall
London, SW1A 2AS

foi-team@cabinetoffice.gov.uk
www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk

Wynne Jones

By email: cj-editor@biggeesblog.cymru

FOI Reference: FOI2020/20971

25 January 2021

Dear Wynne Jones

We refer to your request where you asked:

“1. In his role as Chief Scientific Officer for England does Sir Patrick Vallance also receive a pension from his former employer G S K.

2. As appointed officers [and therefore not answerable to the public through the ballot box] why was Sir Patrick Vallance and Professor Chris Whitty allowed to give a presentation from Downing Street on the subject of Covid-19 without any ministerial support, given that ministers are answerable to the public through the ballot box. Why was the mainstream media excluded and not given an opportunity to question them on their presentation given the serious impacts on the UK economy and employment.

3. To restore public confidence, do you consider there is now a need for a public register to be established to enable senior UK Government Advisors to declare a financial interest when advising Government ministers on scientific or medical matters.”

I apologise for the delay in responding to your request.

I am writing to advise you that following a search of our paper and electronic records, I have established that the information you requested in question one is not held by the Cabinet Office.

In regards to your remaining two questions, these do not constitute a valid request for information as outlined in the Freedom of Information Act 2000. The Act gives a right of access to recorded information that already exists. It does not require public authorities to create new information in order to respond to a request. Advice on how to make a valid request can be accessed on the Information Commissioner's website at: <https://ico.org.uk/for-the-public/official-information/>.

If you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request or wish to request an internal review, you should write to:

Rachel Anderson
Head of Freedom of Information and Clearing House
Cabinet Office
70 Whitehall
London
SW1A 2AS

email: foi-team@cabinetoffice.gov.uk

You should note that the Cabinet Office will not normally accept an application for internal review if it is received more than two months after the date that the reply was issued.

If you are not content with the outcome of your internal review, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. Generally, the Commissioner cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the complaints procedure provided by the Cabinet Office. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

The Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'A. B. C.', written on a white background.

FOI Team
Cabinet Office