

24 May 2023

Dear Chair

I understand that at 12pm today the Inquiry will publish your ruling on a s21 Notice to the Cabinet Office issued on 28 April 2023 (“**the Notice**”), the Notice itself, and the Cabinet Office’s representations under s21(4) which I understand have been rejected. The Cabinet Office has informed me of these matters but is not able to share the ruling with me. I understand that the Notice relates to me, my electronic messages and documents.

You may be aware that I am currently instructing new solicitors to represent me in the Inquiry. That process is well underway but is in the hands of the Cabinet Office to agree funding and other practical arrangements. I have no control over the timing of that process. As at today, I am unrepresented and my counsel team have been instructed not to provide me with any advice.

My understanding is that your ruling affects me directly. However, I have never seen the Notice, I was not party to nor have seen the Cabinet Office’s representations under s21(4), and I am not allowed to see your ruling before it is published. This is highly prejudicial to me given that I believe your ruling may directly and/or indirectly suggest that I have failed to provide documents to the Inquiry. Any such suggestion or implication would be unfair and untrue. The Notice was issued before the deadline had passed for me to provide material to the Inquiry. I have always sought to comply with all disclosure requests from the Inquiry and I have already disclosed over 5,000 pages of documents and over 300 pages of emails.

In the circumstances, I ask that publication of your ruling is delayed for at least 48 hours for me to obtain legal representation and receive legal advice on your ruling. If you are not prepared to delay publication, I ask that a copy of this letter is also published by the Inquiry in due course to make clear my concerns about the unfairness of the position in which I have been placed.

Yours sincerely,



Rt Hon Boris Johnson MP