

Mr P Thompson
37 Church Hill Road
Solihull
West Midlands
B91 3HZ

29 June 2016

Case Reference Number ENQ0634936

Dear Mr Thompson

Re: Occasional access to data to facilitate the smooth transfer by a non domestic transfer to a gas supplier of choice

Thank you for your letter of 18 June 2016 concerning the above.

The Data Protection Act (DPA) only regulates the processing of personal data which is defined in the Act as:-

"data which relate to a living individual who can be identified:-

- (a) from those data, or*
- (b) from those data and other information which is in the possession of, or is likely to come into the possession of, the data controller,*

and includes any expression of opinion about the individual and any indication of the intentions of the data controller or any other person in respect of the individual."

I enclose our guidance on "Determining what is personal data" which explains this definition in further detail.

From the information you have provided, the data which you are trying to access is not personal data. This being the case, the DPA will not apply to it. In effect, this means that there is no data protection reason why it might not be disclosed but nor would you have any right to request it under the DPA. For example, under the DPA, individuals can request copies of their personal information under Section 7 but companies would not have the same rights to access business/commercial information.



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In view of the above, I do not believe that the Information Commissioner's Office will be able to assist you further in this regard. However, I hope this clarification is helpful to you. If you would like to discuss this matter further please contact me on my direct number 01625 545534, or alternatively you can contact our Helpline on 0303 123 1113. In addition, more information about the Data Protection Act is available from our website at www.ico.org.uk.

Yours sincerely

Caroline Thompson
Caroline Thompson

Case Officer

Information Commissioner's Office



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