



HM TREASURY

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Ref: 9/8

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Dear Mr Guðmundsson,

Freedom of Information Act 2000: Icelandic Bank

Thank you for your enquiry dated 7 January 2009 requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

You asked:

Can you confirm or deny that in the days and weeks prior to the Freezing Order [The Landsbanki Freezing Order 2008] an understanding had been reached between UK (FSA and/or HM Treasury) and Landsbanki (now former) owners that if Landsbanki and/or Iceland would put 200 million GBP into the relevant Deposit Insurance Fund (or as a guarantee in some other form) then the FSA/HM Treasury would hasten changes made to the status of Landsbanki branch and UK take over the rest of the guarantees? In other words; If Landsbanki got a 200 million GBP loan from the Icelandic Government (Federal reserve bank or otherwise) to this effect then Iceland would not have to worry anymore about Icesave deposit guarantees?

In answer to this query it would be essential to receive copies of relevant documentation that confirms this unless it can be categorically denied.

The first obligation for authorities responding to requests under the Freedom of Information Act is to confirm whether they hold relevant information. Since there was no understanding such as you describe, I can confirm that the Treasury does not hold any relevant information.

If you have any queries about this letter, please contact me. It will be helpful to us if you remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

**Paul Morran, Information Rights Unit
On behalf of HM Treasury**



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Your Rights to Complain under the FOI Act

If you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request and wish to make a complaint or request an review of our decision, you should write within two months of the date of this letter to HM Treasury, Information Rights Unit, 2/S2, 1 Horse Guards Road, London SW1A 2HQ. email - public.enquiries@hm-treasury.gov.uk

If you are not content with the outcome your complaint, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. Generally, the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the complaints procedure provided by the Treasury. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: The Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF.