



Dr Laura Janes KC (Hon)
info@laurakjanes.co.uk

Disclosure & Library Team
Ministry of Justice
Postal Point 5.22
102 Petty France
London
SW1H 9AJ

data.access@justice.gov.uk

18 August 2025

Dear Laura,

Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Request – 250731026

Thank you for your request dated 31 July in which you asked for the following information from the Ministry of Justice (MoJ):

“Please provide:

1. Who is on the Parole Board Rules Committee
2. The terms of reference or equivalent for the committee
3. Minutes of its meetings to date”.

Your request has been handled under the FOIA.

I can confirm that the MoJ holds the information that you have requested. Please find attached the terms of reference, which includes the names of Committee members, and the minutes of its meetings to date. However, some information, specifically the names of individuals mentioned within the minutes, have been redacted under Section 40(2) of the FOIA, as it constitutes personal data. The Committee met twice last year, with the June meeting cancelled, and no meetings have taken place so far in 2025.

Section 40(2) and section 40(3A) (a) of the FOIA taken together mean that personal data can only be released if to do so would not contravene any of the principles set out in Article 5(1) of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and section 34(1) of the Data Protection Act 2018.

Individuals have a clear and strong expectation that their personal data will be held in confidence and not disclosed to the public under the FOIA. Although section 40 is an absolute exemption, we have considered whether there is a wider public interest in disclosing the personal information that would override the fundamental rights of those involved. In this instance, we have concluded that there is no legitimate interest. The minutes remain clear and comprehensible without disclosing the names of individual Committee members, and releasing this personal information is not necessary to serve any wider public interest.

We believe releasing the requested information into the public domain would be unlawful, the personal information is therefore exempt from disclosure under section 40(2).

This is an absolute exemption and does not require a public interest test under the FOIA.

Appeal Rights

If you are not satisfied with this response, you have the right to request an internal review by responding in writing to one of the addresses below within 40 working days of the date of this response.

data.access@justice.gov.uk

Disclosure & Library Team, Ministry of Justice, Postal Point 5.22, 102 Petty France, London, SW1H 9AJ

You do have the right to ask the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) to investigate any aspect of your complaint. However, please note that the ICO is likely to expect internal complaints procedures to have been exhausted before beginning their investigation.

Yours sincerely,

Sentencing & Parole Policy