

The Future of FOI

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FOI Live

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Possible Reforms

- Possibly expand FOI to other organisations (in manifestos of both parties)
- Publish every item of government spending over £25k and all local government spending over £500
- Publish official salaries
- Create a new right to request government datasets
- www.data.gov.uk
- Strengthen Information Commissioner, by making him appointed by and accountable to Parliament

Possible Problems (based on experience of other countries with FOI)

- Requests increasing
- Reductions in FOI staffing and resources
- Increase in delays and complaints
- Failure to make new government organisations subject to FOI
- Privatisation of public services, or given to voluntary sector

Questions:

- How would these scenarios impact upon you?
- What are the big issues for you?
- Where is FOI going?
- Where should it go?
- What would you most want to happen?