



Queen's & Lord Treasurer's Remembrancer

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Our ref: GE/2/12

Date: 16/05/2012

Dear

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST

Thank you for your request dated 1 May under the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 (FOISA).

The Estate of Carole Ann Denmark was received by us for administration before April 2011 and prior to 1 April 2011 we had been contacted to the effect that there was a potential claimant. In these circumstances, it was deemed appropriate to allow time for evidence to be produced to us on behalf of that claimant rather than proceed to publically advertise the estate to avoid unnecessary outlay by any other party if sufficient evidence was produced by that claimant.

Turning to your specific information requests in relation to the Estate of Carole Ann Denmark these were as follows, with my responses beside them:-

1. **Whether or not QLTR is aware of a pending claim.** Yes
2. **When the Estate was reported to QLTR and by whom together with a valid address.** The estate was initially reported to us as a *bona vacantia* matter on 26 May 2009 but was transferred to *ultimus haeres* on 31 March 2010. The case was reported to us by Campbell D Joss LLB, Solicitor, Unit 4, 1987 Maryhill Road, Glasgow G20 0BT.
3. **What action has QLTR taken on the Denmark Estate since it was reported?** We have completed administration of the estate in accordance with our normal procedures.

Turning now to your further requests arising from your observation that no high value estates (exceeding £29,000) have been advertised by us over the last two quarters (January/April 2012), were as follows and I have provided my responses beside them:

- 1. Has QLTR been informed of any high value estates (i.e. above £30k) which it has not included on any publicised lists?** We are currently aware of two such cases (one of £32,000 and the other where the final figure has still to be determined on completion of administration) but relatives have come forward. Advertising proceeds only where it transpires that no relatives are known.
- 2. Does QLTR have a preferred company who handle higher value Estate, and if so, who are they and what selection process did they undergo to gain preferred status?** No.

If you are dissatisfied with the way in which your request has been handled, you do have the right to ask us to review it. Your request should be made within 40 working days of receipt of this letter and we will reply within 20 working days of receipt. If you require a review of our decision to be carried out, please write to The QLTR, Unit 5, 14a South St Andrew Street, Edinburgh EH2 2AZ, or for requests sent by e-mail to coqltr@copfs.gsi.gov.uk.

The review will be undertaken by staff not involved in the original decision making process.

If our decision is unchanged following a review and you remain dissatisfied with this, there is a right of appeal to the Scottish Information Commissioner under section 47(1) of FOISA.

Should you subsequently wish to appeal against the Commissioner's decision on such an appeal, there is a right of appeal to the Court of Session on a point of law only.