



**Foreign &  
Commonwealth  
Office**

11 June 2003

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Dear Mr Boulton

Thank you for your letter dated 26<sup>th</sup> May to Jack Straw, Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs. I am replying as a member of the department of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office responsible for the UK's relations with Australia.

We did not receive your letter of the 14<sup>th</sup> October 2002, therefore could not send a reply.

→ { The Queen, in her role as Head of State of the United Kingdom and as such advised by British ministers, has no executive power exercisable within the Commonwealth of Australia. The monarch's role as Queen of Australia is separate from her role in relation to the United Kingdom and in its fulfilment she is advised by Australian ministers.

I hope you find this useful

Yours sincerely,

Miss Samantha O'Callaghan  
North East Asia Pacific Department