PAGSTERs may remember that there was an important consultation about the beneficial ownership of companies. It closed at the end of September 2015 and Positive Action Group wrote a submission.

As a result of the responses received Chief Minister Bell made statements that the Isle of Man would not be changing its position on revealing beneficial ownership of companies registered here.

But the responses were never published, even in summary. Taking advantage of the new Freedom of Information Act, PAG requested release of all the responses in full.

FOI worked! Here are the 38 submissions that were made and there is a wide variety of opinion expressed. One response was signed by 17 MPs and 3 members of the House of Lords. Of particular interest is the submission from the Department of Home Affairs, which reflects the views of the Financial Crime Unit. Take a look for yourself.