

24 June 2009

By email: request-5026-
f82e424f@whatdotheyknow.com

Our Ref: **F0003133**

Dear Mr Urquhart,

Freedom of Information Request

I am writing in response to your request for information of 1 June 2009. Your request was seeking information about memoranda of understanding and agreed budget between Communities and Local Government and the Local Government Association in their capacity as selector under the Sustainable Communities Act 2007. I can confirm that Communities and Local Government does hold some of the information that you have requested and that I am able to provide you with the following information.

The table below sets out details of the budget agreed between the Department and Local Government Association for the financial year 2008/09. The memorandum of understanding has not yet been agreed but once it has been settled, we will publish the document.

Communities and Local Government as an organisation aims to be as helpful as possible in the way it deals with requests for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and the Environmental Information Regulations 2004. If, however, you are not satisfied with the way in which your request has been handled or the outcome, you may request an internal review within two calendar months of the date of this letter. Information about the Department's review procedures and how to apply for an internal review of your case can be found on the Department's website at <http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/corporate/pdf/514130.pdf>. This also explains your right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision in the event that you remain dissatisfied following the authority's review.

If you have any queries about this letter, please contact me and remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

Yours sincerely,

Jennifer Sewell

Department for Communities and Local Government
5/A6 Eland House
Bressenden Place
London
SW1E 5DU

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Details of budget agreed between the Department and Local Government Association for the financial year 2008/09

volume level of 100 proposals per year	2008/09 inc set-up costs (£)
initial communications campaign and core publication for stakeholders	20804
IT systems/ website for processing and publishing proposals	25000
establishing LGA selector panel incl Member training (panel 4+4 members)	2000
panel meeting costs (8 per year, plus 2 in set-up period)	1500
recruitment training and administration of fees for external assessors	5000
Members allowance for selector panel	3000
business support post handling enquiries and proposals	4000
first sift	
written assessment	
senior policy consultant input	42000
Total	103304