



Mr Roger Pearse  
[request-14836-b01c45e5@whatdotheyknow.com](mailto:request-14836-b01c45e5@whatdotheyknow.com)

14 September 2009

Dear Mr Pearse,

### FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 – REQUEST 0933

Thank you for your request for an internal review of the response contained in our letter of 13 August 2009. I appreciate the opportunity you have given us to scrutinise our original decision.

Having reviewed the material, I find that the Library did not answer your original question precisely enough. I apologise for this error on the Library's part.

Your original request was:

*'I note that the BL charges a fee to websites that use digital images of pages from manuscripts from the BL collection.  
Please would you let me know, for each of the past 5 years (either calendar or financial, whichever is more convenient):  
How many requests were made for use of BL collection images of these items on third party websites?  
How much income was received by the BL in consideration of the use of BL collection images of these items on third party websites?'*

The Library provides access to its manuscripts collections free of charge in reading rooms but normally charges for the use of digital images, in accordance with Treasury guidance. We reserve the right to waive charges for the rights for a third party to reproduce images of BL collection items for non-commercial use, at our discretion.

The table below indicates the number of requests for rights to reproduce BL collection images of manuscript items, for which a charge was made, and the income derived from those transactions for the five years in question.

	2004 / 2005	2005 / 2006	2006 / 2007	2007 / 2008	2008 / 2009
<b>Number</b>	772	845	959	527	664
<b>Income</b>	£138,277	£121,162	£105,592	£95,175	£122,578



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These figures represent all chargeable requests to use digital images of manuscripts. We are not able to break down the figures further in order to extract usage on third-party websites as this information is not held on the Library's systems.

You are free to use any information supplied for your own use, including for non-commercial research purposes. The information may also be used for the purposes of news reporting. However, any other type of re-use, for example by publishing or issuing copies to the public, will require the permission of the copyright owner.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you may appeal directly to the Information Commissioner at the address given below. You should do this within two months of our final decision. There is no charge for making an appeal.

Further information on the Freedom of Information Act 2000 is available from the Information Commissioner's Office:

Wycliffe House  
Water Lane  
Wilmslow  
SK9 5AF

Telephone 08456 30 60 60 or 01625 54 57 45

Website [www.ico.gov.uk](http://www.ico.gov.uk)

Yours sincerely

Lynne Brindley, DBE  
**Chief Executive**