



HM TREASURY

1 Horse Guards Road
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SW1A 2HQ

20th November 2009

Franç McLaughlin

Information Rights Unit

By email:
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www.hm-treasury.gov.uk
FOI.responses@hmtreasury.gsi.gov.uk

Ref: IRU 9/900
email/21796/2009

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000: ISAs

Dear Mr McLaughlin,

Thank you for your enquiry dated 25th October 2009, which we received on 26th October 2009, asking for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

2. You asked:

What evidence does the Treasury have comparing interest rates available to cash ISA savers with interest rates available in non-ISA savings schemes?

What information does the Treasury have comparing the overall value for money available in the market place from cash ISA offerings as against non-ISA savings vehicles, taking account of other factors, including administrative complexities in switching providers?

3. I can indicate that HM Treasury does not hold the information that you seek.

4. The interest rates paid by banks and building societies are commercial choices for firms to make in the open market. However, a number of providers do continue to offer savings interest rates significantly above the Bank of England base rate, and savers can get the best possible income from their savings by shopping around. The Financial Services Authority publishes comparative tables of savings accounts and the interest rates offered as part of its Money Made Clear initiative. These tables can be found at www.moneymadeclear.fsa.gov.uk.



5. If you have any queries about this letter, please contact us at the email account given in the header to this letter. It would help us if you could remember to quote the IRU reference number (also in the header) in any future communications.

Yours sincerely,

Information Rights Unit
On behalf of HM Treasury

Your right to complain under the Freedom of Information Act 2000

If you are not happy with this reply, you may request a review within 2 months of the date of this letter, setting out which aspects of the reply concern you and why you are dissatisfied. The review request must be in writing to: HM Treasury, Information Rights Unit, 2/S2, 1 Horse Guards Road, London SW1A 2HQ or FOI.responses@hmtreasury.gsi.gov.uk.

If you are not content with the outcome your complaint, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. Generally, the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the complaints procedure provided by the Treasury. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: The Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF.

