



HM TREASURY

1 Horse Guards Road
London
SW1A 2HQ

23rd March 2010

Franç McLaughlin

Information Rights Unit

By email:
request-21907-016d425f@whatdotheyknow.com

Tel: 020 7270 4558
Fax: 020 7270 4861

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

Ref: IRU 10/184
email/22789/2010

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000:
ISAs

Dear Mr. McLaughlin,

Thank you for your enquiry dated 2nd March 2010, which we received on 3rd March 2010, in which you provided an article discussing interest rates available on cash Individual Savings Accounts (ISA).

2. In regard to this article, you asked what information the Treasury held on the problems reported therein. This has been treated as a request for information under the Freedom of Information (Fol) Act 2000 (the 'Act').

3. As mentioned in previous correspondence, the interest rates offered on ISA accounts are a commercial decision for providers. A number of banks and other institutions continue to offer savings interest rates significantly above the Bank of England base rate, and savers can ensure they get the best possible income from their savings by shopping around. We have also indicated to you previously that 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.

4. In terms of the Freedom of Information Act, your enquiry concerns issues that were covered in your previous request of 25th October 2009, however, as over 60 consecutive working days have elapsed since that previous request, we are required to consider your new request afresh, and I can again indicate that we do not hold information that falls within the scope of your request. However, I do hope the information and links we provided around the issue in previous responses have to some extent been helpful.

5. If you wish to write in with further general enquiries that are not of an Fol nature then you should address these to: The Correspondence & Enquiry Unit, HM Treasury, 1 Horse Guards Road, London, SW1A 2HQ.



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

6. Otherwise, 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 of your complaint, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) for a decision. Generally, they cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the complaints procedure provided by the Treasury. The ICO can be contacted at: The Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF.

