



HM TREASURY

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03 March 2010

Information Rights Unit

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Ref: 10/104

Re: Freedom of Information Act 2000: Contract between Treasury and Descisys

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request dated 03 February

You asked for information covering –

... the contract between the Treasury and Descisys -- the company who provided the Combined Online Information System (COINS) which is used as the governments accounting software.

I can confirm we hold this information, however we have identified it as falling in the exemption at section 43(2) (commercial interests). This is a qualified exemption and we are required to balance the public interest between disclosure and non-disclosure. By virtue of section 10(3) of the Act, where public authorities have to consider the balance of the public interest in relation to a request, they do not have to comply with the request until such time as is reasonable in the circumstances.

We always aim to reply to requests in full, even when the balancing of the public interest is required; however in this case, the Treasury has not yet resolved the different considerations. We therefore need to take some additional time to assess whether the public interest in withholding the information outweighs the public interest in disclosing it. We hope to have completed our consideration by 10 March 2010.

If you have any queries about this letter, please contact me. It will be helpful to us if you remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

Information Rights Unit
HM Treasury



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

Your right to complain under the Freedom of Information Act 2000

If you are not happy with this reply, you may request a review by writing to HM Treasury, Information Rights Unit, 2/S2, 1 Horse Guards Road, London SW1A 2HQ.

Email FOI.responses@hmtreasury.gov.uk

Any review request must be made within 2 months of the date of this letter.

It would assist our review if you set out which aspects of the reply concern you and why you are dissatisfied.

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.

