



HM TREASURY

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Ref: 10/568

Re: Freedom of Information Act 2000: Common Purpose Training

Thank you for your narrowed Freedom of Information request, which we received on 28 June 2010.

Originally you asked for information covering –

- *the names and ranks/grades, departments and job titles of all employees in your organisation who have attended Common Purpose courses.*
- *the total expenditure on Common Purpose courses for each year from 1997 to date together with a copy of the invoice for each Common Purpose course paid for by your organisation*

You have since restricted your request to the period 01 January 2005 to present.

HM Treasury's Group Procurement Team handles all HM Treasury's main contracts for Learning and Development. Their role is to ensure that the goods, works and services that the Treasury Group needs to deliver the Treasury's Strategic Objectives are procured in accordance with the Government's procurement policy and regulatory framework, seeking to secure value for money.

The Treasury does not use Common Purpose as part of our central training provision. However, Directorates within the Treasury have authority to book external courses for staff members for job-related development.

We can confirm we hold information in scope and we are releasing copies of each invoice to you as well as the table below.

07-Aug-06	3,525.00
12-Sep-06	4,641.25
04-Nov-09	4,025.00
Total	<u>12,191</u>

We are however withholding the names and other information that might identify those who attended each course. We are doing this under section 40 of the Act which protects personal data. We consider that release of this information would be unfair, as officials would not reasonably expect details of training they had undertaken to be released into the public domain. Therefore release of this information would breach the first data protection principle – that data be processed



fairly and lawfully. Furthermore, we do not consider that any of the conditions set out in Schedule 2 to the Data Protection Act would apply in this case. Section 40 is an absolute exemption so we are not required to consider the public interest in disclosure.

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

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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.

