



Propriety and Ethics Team

Room 118  
70 Whitehall  
London  
SW1A 2AS

Telephone 020 7276 3968  
Fax 020 7276 2495  
Email [sally.pugh@cabinet-office.x.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:sally.pugh@cabinet-office.x.gsi.gov.uk)  
Web [www.cabinet-office.gov.uk](http://www.cabinet-office.gov.uk)

Mr Richard Taylor  
[Request-26525-ff7204ed@whatdotheyknow.com](mailto:Request-26525-ff7204ed@whatdotheyknow.com)

Reference: FOI301549

Dear Mr Taylor

2 July 2010

Thank you for your request of 3 June under the Freedom of Information Act. You requested the following information:

1. Could you please release details of any cross Government and departmental caps which have been set on the numbers of special advisors.
2. Could you please provide the current list of special advisors, along with their salary bands, specific role, and source of funding for their salaries.

Special advisers are appointed in accordance with the provisions of the *Ministerial Code*, which was published by the Prime Minister on 21 May 2010, and is available on the Cabinet Office website at [www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk](http://www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk) The *Code* states at paragraph 3.2 that:

"With the exception of the Prime Minister and Deputy Prime Minister, Cabinet Ministers may each appoint up to two special advisers (paid or unpaid). The Prime Minister may also authorise the appointment of one special adviser by Ministers who regularly attend Cabinet. Where a Minister has additional responsibility, additional advisers may be allowed".

The Prime Minister published on 10 June, details about special advisers in post across Government, including each special adviser's pay band, and actual salary where this is £58,200 or higher. A copy of the Prime Minister's Written Ministerial Statement to Parliament (Official Report, Column 32 WS) setting out this information is accessible electronically via the following link. <http://www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/conduct-ethics/special-advisers.aspx>

Special advisers are paid from departmental funds.



Please quote our reference number at the top of this letter in any future correspondence on this case.

If you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request or wish to request an internal review, you should write to:

Sue Gray  
Director  
Cabinet Office  
70 Whitehall  
London  
SW1A 2AS

email: [foiteam@cabinet-office.x.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:foiteam@cabinet-office.x.gsi.gov.uk)

You should note that the Cabinet Office will not normally accept an application for internal review if it is received more than two months after the date that the reply was issued.

If you are not content with the outcome of your internal review, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. Generally, the Commissioner cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the complaints procedure provided by Cabinet Office. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

The Information Commissioner's Office  
Wycliffe House  
Water Lane  
Wilmslow  
Cheshire  
SK9 5AF

Yours sincerely  
Sally Pugh

Sally Pugh

