



HM TREASURY

1 Horse Guards Road
London
SW1A 2HQ

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Information Rights Unit

Tel: 0207 270 4558

Fax: 0207 270 4861

William Olde

By email:

request-40528-d92dfd2d@whatdotheyknow.com

www.hmtreasury.gov.uk
FOI.responses@hmtreasury.gsi.gov.uk

Ref: 10/584

Re: Freedom of Information Act 2000: Open Source Software

Thank you for your enquiry dated 2 July 2010 requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

You asked for information covering –

- studies, business cases or other documentation around adopting open source software in your organisation
- open source software in use in your organisation and any associated implementation costs (broken down, if possible, by category such as external consultancy, internal time etc).
- a policy on the use of open source software? If so, please provide a copy.

HM Treasury have no record of any studies, business cases or other documentation around adopting open source software.

HM Treasury use the following open source products:

- Apache Tomcat software
- Java technologies
- WordPress
- PHP
- MySQL
- PuTTY
- FileZilla
- Cygwin

Associated implementation costs for the first five items above are part of a delivered and supported 3rd party package. We do not have any specific costs relating to implementation of Open Source elements.



UNCLASSIFIED

Open Source implementation costs for the last three items above are not separately captured as they are a small part of a few individuals' day-to-day work.

HM Treasury refers to the policies on Open Source Software issued under the previous government, available at the following link - http://www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/govtalk/archive/policy_documents_1_of_1/open_source_policy_archive_d_docs.aspx

In answer to a written Parliamentary Question (HC Deb, 3 June 2010, c49W) the Minister for the Cabinet Office confirmed the government are committed to the use of open source software whenever possible:

Departmental Internet

Mr Watson: *To ask the Minister for the Cabinet Office what plans he has for the future of the (a) Number 10 and (b) Cabinet Office website; and if he will make a statement. [17]*

Mr Maude: *The Government believe that departmental websites should be hubs for debate as well as information-where people come together to discuss issues and address challenges-and that this should be achieved efficiently and, whenever possible using open source software. Any future development of websites run by the Cabinet Office will be assessed and reviewed against these criteria.*

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.



Paul Morran
Information Rights Unit

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.