



18th July 2008

Dear Mr MacLean

Qualifications and
Curriculum Authority
83 Piccadilly
London W1J 8QA

Freedom of Information Act Request 1175

Telephone: 020 7509 5555
Minicom: 020 7509 6546
Email: info@qca.org.uk
www.qca.org.uk

1. I refer to your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 ("the Act"), received by the Qualifications and Curriculum Authority ("QCA") on 19 June 2008. You requested the following information:

"Please detail total expenditure by the Qualifications & Curriculum Authority on Common Purpose courses for each of the following years: 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007 and 2008 to date.

Please also supply a copy of the invoice for each Common Purpose course paid for by this organisation.

*By "Common Purpose", I mean the training organisation of that name:
<http://www.commonpurpose.org/home.aspx>"*

2. Please find enclosed copies of invoices showing the amount QCA has spent with Common Purpose for the entire period you specify. We hold no further information regarding amounts spent by QCA with Common Purpose.
3. You will note that some information has been redacted from the invoices. This information has been removed on the basis that it is personal data that is exempt from disclosure under sub-sections 40(2) and 40(3)(a)(i) of the FOIA. These sub-sections provide that personal data is exempt if disclosure would contravene any of the Data Protection Principles set out in the Data Protection Act 1998. The first Data Protection Principle states that individuals' personal data should be handled "fairly". QCA believes it would not be fair to release the names and/or contact details of junior employees of Common Purpose as those individuals may reasonably expect their data to be kept private.
4. Should you have any questions relating to this response to your request please contact me by e-mailing nunnd@qca.org.uk. If you are unhappy the way in which your request has been handled, QCA has an internal complaints procedure through which you can raise any concerns you might have. Further details of this procedure can be obtained by contacting the legal department at QCA by e-mailing InfoCompliance@qca.org.uk.
5. If you are dissatisfied with the outcome of the complaints procedure, you can apply to the Information Commissioner, who will consider whether QCA has complied with its obligations under the Act, and can require QCA to remedy any problems. You can find out more about how to do this, and about the Act in general, on the Information Commissioner's website at: www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk. Complaints to the Information Commissioner should be sent to: FOI/EIR Complaints Resolution, Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF.

Yours sincerely,

Darryl Nunn
Head of Finance



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the Charities Act 1993