

Mr Andrew Keenan

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www.gov.uk/hm-treasury

25 August 2020

Dear Mr Keenan

Ref: FOI2020/30072

Freedom of Information Act 2000

Thank you for your enquiry of 3 August 2020, which we have considered under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (the FOI Act).

You asked for the following information:

“- The metric HMRC uses to measure the numbers of self-employed people in the UK

- The number of newly self-employed people registered by that metric in each calendar month since the financial year 2015/16

- The number of Unique Taxpayer References created each calendar month since the financial year 2015/16, if different from above

- The number and percentage of self-employed people that HMRC believes to be excluded from the CJRS and SEISS schemes”

Following a search of our records, we can confirm that HM Treasury does hold some information within the scope of your request.

Some of the information you have requested is already in the public domain. Under section 21 of the FOI Act, public authorities are not obliged to re-issue information where it is already publicly accessible. To be helpful, a link to the information is provided below. Any self-employment data that HM Treasury hold in scope of this request is on the Office for National Statistics website at:

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/employmentandlabourmarket/peopleinwork/employmentandemployeetypes/timeseries/mgrq/lms?referrer=search&searchTerm=mgrq>.

Beyond the information already available at the above website, HM Treasury holds no further information in scope of your request.

If you have any queries about this letter, please contact us. Please quote the reference number above in any future communications.

Yours sincerely

Information Rights Unit

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Email: foirequests@hmtreasury.gov.uk

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

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The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: The Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF (or via their website at: <https://ico.org.uk>).