

Information Rights Unit HM Treasury 1 Horse Guards Road London SW1A 2HQ

Mr Ian Rossiter

Via email: request-497655-03aa0bd7@whatdotheyknow.com 020 7270 5000 foirequests@hmtreasury.gov.uk www.gov.uk/hm-treasury

9 August 2018

Ref: FOI2018/12515

Dear Mr Rossiter

Freedom of Information Act 2000: Coins and notes

Thank you for your enquiry of 16 July 2018, which we have considered under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (the FOI Act).

You asked for the following information:

"Are the coins/notes circulating as legal tender/money in the UK totally debt-free?"

I can confirm that HM Treasury does not hold information within the scope of your request.

However, the Bank of England has published a number of papers on the topic of both money creation, and on legal tender, which you may find interesting. These can be found at:

https://www.bankofengland.co.uk/quarterly-bulletin/2014/q1/money-creation-in-the-modern-economy

http://edu.bankofengland.co.uk/knowledgebank/what-is-legal-tender/

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.

If you are not content with the outcome of the review, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. Generally, the Commissioner will not make a decision unless you have exhausted the complaints procedure provided by HM Treasury which is outlined above.

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).