



UK Visas & Immigration

Aditi

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FOI Reference: 2901/33698

31 December 2014

Dear Aditi

Thank you for your enquiry of 3 December in which you requested information about Tier 2 Intra Company Transfers (ICT) and Tier 2 General (Gen) Certificates of Sponsorship under the points-based system. This has been dealt with as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) 2000.

You submitted six separate requests for information which we have treated under one reference number.

We hold some information of interest to you but we have estimated that the cost of meeting your request would exceed the cost limit of £600 specified in the Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2004. We are therefore unable to comply with it. The source information we hold on Tier 2 ICT Certificate of Sponsorship (COS) Leave to Remain extensions is not available in a reportable format. To obtain this information would require a manual search and cross-referencing of all relevant cases on the Case Immigration Database which exceeds the cost limit.

The £600 limit is based on work being carried out at a rate of £25 per hour, which equates to 24 hours of work per request. The cost of locating, retrieving and extracting information and preparing the response can be included in the costs for these purposes. The costs do not include considering whether any information is exempt from disclosure, overheads such as heating or lighting, or items such as photocopying or postage. If you refine your request, so that it is more likely to fall under the cost limit, we will consider it again. Please note that if you simply break

your request down into a series of similar smaller requests, we might still decline to answer it if the total cost exceeds £600.

I am also unable to provide you with information on client addresses. It is the general policy of UK Visas & Immigration (UKVI) not to disclose to a third party, personal information about another person. This is because the UKVI has obligations under the Data Protection Act and in law generally to protect this information.

Your request for personal information has been considered under the FOIA in line with our obligations as part of the Home Office. However, it has been concluded that the information you have requested is exempt under Section 40(2) of the Act. Section 40(2) of the Freedom of Information Act provides that information will be exempt from disclosure if disclosure would breach any of the Data Protection principles. We have concluded that the information you have requested would breach the first Data Protection principle and therefore we cannot supply the information you have requested.

I hope this is of help to you. If you are dissatisfied with this response you may request an independent internal review of our handling of your request by submitting a complaint within two months to the address below, quoting reference 33698. If you ask for an internal review, it would be helpful if you could say why you are dissatisfied with the response.

Information Access Team
Home Office
3rd Floor, Peel Building
2 Marsham Street
London SW1P 4DF
e-mail: info.access@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk

As part of any internal review the Department's handling of your information request will be reassessed by staff not involved in providing you with this response. If you remain dissatisfied after this internal review, you would have a right of complaint to the Information Commissioner as established by section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act.

Yours sincerely

Daniela Walker

We value your feedback, please use the link below to access a brief anonymous survey to help us improve our service to you:
<http://www.homeofficesurveys.homeoffice.gov.uk/s/108105TAZNG>