



**Ben Norman**  
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Mr John Finn

Via email to: [request-71662-bc0fd806@whatdotheyknow.com](mailto:request-71662-bc0fd806@whatdotheyknow.com)

Dear Mr Finn

Thank you for your email of 16 May in which you ask under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 ('Fol Act') the following questions relating to the €500 banknote:

- '1. Is there any law controlling the retail availability of the circulation and supply of Euro currency in the UK in particular the €500 banknote.*
- 2. Where do banks in the UK obtain Euro currency in particular the €500 banknote*
- 3. Have you any evidence based research linking the Euro in particular the €500 banknote to crime in the UK'.*

The Bank of England is responsible for the distribution, circulation and destruction of Bank of England banknotes. We therefore do not hold information relevant to your request. The wholesale distribution of our notes is managed under the Note Circulation Scheme and you will find information about this and banknotes more generally, on our website at [www.bankofengland.co.uk/banknotes](http://www.bankofengland.co.uk/banknotes).

May I suggest that you contact SOCA (Serious Organised Crime Agency) who may be able to help you with your enquiry, in particular with questions 1 and 3. You may be interested in the press released issued by SOCA in May 2010 regarding the €500 banknote at <http://www.soca.gov.uk/news/225-500-note-no-longer-available-in-uk>

Finally, banks in the UK will each have different commercial arrangements to obtain euro banknotes. You would need to approach the banks direct regarding this matter.

Yours sincerely

*Ben Norman*

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