



HM Treasury

Information Rights Unit
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Mr Andrew Saunders

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23 November 2018

Dear Mr Saunders

Ref: FOI2018/18763

Freedom of Information Act 2000: HM Treasury Ministers' oral evidence to House of Lords Committees

Thank you for your enquiry of 26 October 2018, which we have considered under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (the FOI Act).

You asked for the following information:

- "i) Details and dates of when a Treasury minister has been invited to give oral evidence at the Lords Economic Affairs Committee Finance Bill Sub-Committee*
- ii) The instances in which a Treasury minister has been invited but not given oral evidence at the Lords Economic Affairs Committee Finance Bill Sub-Committee*
- iii) Details and dates of when a Treasury minister has given oral evidence to a Committee or Sub-Committee in the Lords"*

I can confirm that the Treasury does hold information within the scope of your request. However, your request as currently drafted is very broad and without a timeframe.

In order to identify if we hold all the information would require us to search extensively across the Department to see if we hold all the information requested. This is because the Treasury does not collate information in a way that could be used to easily identify all the information within the scope of your request.

We estimate that to search and locate any information held would exceed a set limit which is known as the appropriate limit. The appropriate limit for central Government is set at £600. This represents the estimated cost of one person spending three and a half working days in determining whether the Department holds the information, and locating, retrieving and extracting that information.

Under section 12 of the FOI Act, departments are not obliged to comply with requests in these circumstances. It may be that if you were to amend your request, for example, by providing a timescale and, with regard to part (iii), naming the Committees you are interested in, we may be able to comply with a future request. However, we cannot guarantee that this would be the case.

However, we can advise you that Parliament publishes evidence provided to its Lords Committees, which can be accessed at the following link:

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/committees/committees-a-z/lords-select/>

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>).