

Thomas Reynolds

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Our reference: FOI - 110438

17 March 2017

Dear Mr Reynolds

**Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Request – FOI - 110438**

Thank you for your requests dated 21 February 2017 in which asked for the following information from the Ministry of Justice (MoJ):

**Deputy District Judge Eyley ticketed for family cases in Kent?**  
**Can you please confirm if DDJ Eyley is ticketed for public family cases in Kent.**  
**Please provide a yearly breakdown of all of public family case dates and the name of the court involved ... from January 2014 until December 2016.**

**...AND...**

**Deputy District Judge John William Eyley - Kent Court Cases**  
**Please provide a list of dates for which Deputy District Judge John Willam Eyley sat in Kent Courts and list separately if any of these cases where connected with Kent County Council however loosely.**  
**Please confirm which cases he is ticketed to hear.**  
**List the court name, date, and type of civil proceeding**  
**So that the costs limits are not exceeded please confirm in the following yearly date order of preference:**

- 1. 2015 -2016**
- 2. 2014- 2015**
- 3. 2013 - 2012 and so on ....**

Your request is being handled under the FOIA.

Where more than one request is received for the same or similar information, section 5(2) of the FOI and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2004 allows public authorities to aggregate requests and respond to them together I have therefore aggregated your requests.

I can confirm the MoJ holds some of the information you have requested. However, to provide as the request currently stands would exceed the cost limit set out in the FOIA.

Section 12(1) of the FOIA means public authorities are not obliged to comply with a request for information if it estimates the cost of complying would exceed the appropriate limit. The appropriate limit for central government is set at £600. This represents the estimated cost of one person spending 3.5 working days determining whether the department holds the information, and locating, retrieving and extracting the information.

Where section 12 applies to one part of a request we refuse all parts of the request under the cost limit as advised by the Information Commissioner's Office.

We believe that the cost of searching our records for the information would exceed the appropriate limit. We would need to search the courts' lists for hearings that have taken place. We would also need to search our electronic records to check if Kent County Council has any connection with the cases heard. Both searches involve considerable work and would exceed the cost limit.

Consequently, we are not obliged to comply with your request.

Although we cannot answer your request at the moment, we may be able to answer a refined request within the cost limit. You may wish to consider, for example, reducing the volume of your request and, or, specifying a narrower period of time. Please be aware that we cannot guarantee at this stage that a refined request will fall within the FOIA cost limit, or that other exemptions will not apply.

For guidance on how to structure successful requests please refer to the ICO website on the following link:  
[http://ico.org.uk/for\\_the\\_public/official\\_information](http://ico.org.uk/for_the_public/official_information)

[http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukxi/2004/3244/pdfs/ukxi\\_20043244\\_en.pdf](http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukxi/2004/3244/pdfs/ukxi_20043244_en.pdf)

## **Appeal Rights**

If you are not satisfied with this response you have the right to request an internal review by responding in writing to one of the addresses below within two months of the date of this response.

[data.access@justice.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:data.access@justice.gsi.gov.uk)

Data Access and Compliance Unit, Ministry of Justice, 10.38, 102 Petty France, London, SW1H 9AJ

You do have the right to ask the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) to investigate any aspect of your complaint. However, please note that the ICO is likely to expect internal complaints procedures to have been exhausted before beginning their investigation.

Yours sincerely

Knowledge and Information Liaison Officer  
South East Regional Support Unit | HM Courts and Tribunals Service