

Ed Boyce
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Dear Ed Boyce

Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Request – 220212001 - FOI

Thank you for your request received on 12 February 2022 in which you asked for the following information from the Ministry of Justice (MoJ):

“On the 10 November 2019 the MOJ confirmed a total of 13 writs were issued from the Chancery Chambers by the High Court Chancery Division between October and November 2018 that you say were made out in the name of an unknown High Court Enforcement Officer not in the name of Court Enforcement Services Ltd and none had been crossed out by hand and replaced with Equita.

- 1. Were these 13 High Court Writs either Writ 66 or Writ 66a and from which section of the Chancery Division.***
- 2. Does the Chancery Division of the High Court officers seal the Writ 66a which do not go before a judge.***
- 3. Are the costs for Writ 66a £51.75 and is the same cost applied to Writ 66 which must go before a judge.***
- 4. What is a Dummy File by the Insolvency and Companies and how many of these files were opened with a BR Case Reference number to enable a Writ of Possession to be obtained and issued.***
- 5. How many dummy files were created on 23 October 2018.***
- 6. How many writs were dated for approval on the 24 October and how many were sealed the same day.***
- 7. How many writs were dated 29 November 2018 and how many were sealed on 30 November 2018.***
- 8. a) How many writs dated 29 November 2018 were put before a judge and sealed.***
b) how many were not put before a judge and put before a court officer and sealed.

c) how many were altered from Court Enforcement Services Limited to Equita.

9. Please provide separate information for both a Writ 66 and Writ 66a.

10. How many of these Dummy Files were marked as a Foreign Transfer.”

Your request has been handled under the FOIA.

I can confirm that the MoJ holds some of the information that you have requested, and I have provided it below.

Question 1 – Were these 13 High Court Writs either Writ 66 or Writ 66a and from which section of the Chancery Division.

Four of these were Writ 66. None were Writ 66a and they were all dealt with by the Chancery Issue Team.

Question 2 - Does the Chancery Division of the High Court officers seal the Writ 66a which do not go before a judge.

Yes, the Chancery Division of the High Court officers seal the Writ 66a which do not go before a judge.

Question 3 - Are the costs for Writ 66a £51.75 and is the same cost applied to Writ 66 which must go before a judge.

The cost of a Writ 66 and 66a is £71, it was £66 between October and November 2018.

Questions 4 – What is a Dummy File by the Insolvency and Companies and how many of these files were opened with a BR Case Reference number to enable a Writ of Possession to be obtained and issued.

We are unable to answer what a Dummy File is as no recorded information is held for this question as the court have confirmed no Dummy Files are created, the court only creates electronic files on CE File system. Therefore, we unable to provide any information in relation to your second question.

Questions 5 - How many dummy files were created on 23 October 2018

Please see response for question 4

Question 6 - How many writs were dated for approval on the 24 October and how many were sealed the same day.

None.

Question 7 - How many writs were dated 29 November 2018 and how many were sealed on 30 November 2018.

None.

Questions 8 a) - How many writs dated 29 November 2018 were put before a judge and sealed

No writs dated 29 November 2018 were put before a Judge.

b) how many were not put before a judge and put before a court officer and sealed.
Four

c) how many were altered from Court Enforcement Services Limited to Equita.
None.

Question 9 - Please provide separate information for both a Writ 66 and Writ 66a.
No Writ 66 and 66a were issued in this period.

Question 10 - How many of these Dummy Files were marked as a Foreign Transfer
Please see response for question 4.

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.gov.uk

Disclosure Team, Ministry of Justice

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

London Regional Support Unit | HM Courts & Tribunals Service