

Matthew Davis

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4 March 2022

Dear Matthew Davis

Ref: FOI2022/03111

## Freedom of Information Act 2000

Thank you for your enquiry of 11 February 2022, which we have considered under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (the FOI Act).

You asked for the following information:

*"For each of your Government office buildings that are part of your department in London could you please answer the following questions.*

- 1. What was the bill for all energy costs at that building in (i) 2019/20, (ii) 2020/21 and (iii) each of the first three quarters of the 2021/22 financial year?*
- 2. If possible, please split this bill up by the constituent costs? Eg how much for gas, electricity, oil etc."*

Following a search of our records, we can confirm that HM Treasury does hold information within the scope of your request.

Section 21 of the FOI Act does not oblige the Treasury to reissue information which is already publicly accessible. However, to be helpful, we have provided you with the link below.

The spend on gas, electricity, etc are also published within the Sustainability Report in the 2020-21 Annual Report and Accounts from pages 236 to 246 at

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/1004021/HMT\\_ARA\\_web.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1004021/HMT_ARA_web.pdf)

The exemption at section 22(1) of the FOI Act - information intended for future publication - is engaged for the information from 1 April 2021 to 31 December 2022. The information requested will be published online in the future around July 2022 at the above link.

Section 22 is a qualified exemption and we are required to consider the public interest in early disclosure against the public interest in publishing the information in the future.

There is a strong public interest in the publication of information of this nature. However, public authorities must, within reason, have space to be able to determine our own publication timetables and deal with the necessary preparation, administration and context of publication.

The FOI Act recognises that the coincidence of individual requests for information should not determine the publication timetables of public authorities, outside a planned publication. Given this, we judge that the balance of the public interest lies in not disclosing the information held at this time, but in releasing the information within the planned publication.

However, individual invoices are published as part of the transparency data on spend over £25,000, which can be found at the following link

[HM Treasury spend over £25,000 - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/datasets/hm-treasury-spend-over-25000)

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](mailto: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.

If you are not content with the outcome of the review, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. Generally, the Commissioner will not make a decision unless you have exhausted the complaints procedure provided by HM Treasury which is outlined above.

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>).