



10 DOWNING STREET

LONDON SW1A 2AA

foi-team@cabinetoffice.gov.uk

7 January 2021

Dear Mr Burchett

Our ref: FOI2020/20973

Thank you for your email of 4 December in which you make a request under the Freedom of Information Act. Your full request is attached.

I estimate that the cost of complying with your request would exceed the appropriate limit which has been specified in the regulations and for Central Government it is set at £600. This represents the estimated cost of one person spending 3.5 working days in determining whether we hold the information, and locating, retrieving and extracting the information.

You have asked for details of expenditure on any items of drink specifically excluding “*water, tea bags, coffee granules*” or any item of snack-food purchased “*which was not already provided by downing street*”.

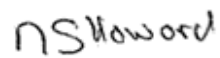
We do not hold a single file in which all the information that you have requested would be held. Nor do we manage or arrange our records in a way which mirror your requests, which would enable us to search for, and retrieve, all relevant information within the appropriate limit.

Your request encompasses a period of some 9 months. The scope of your request encompasses not only purchases made by or on behalf of staff working at 10 Downing Street during the specified period, but also any purchases of drink or snack food by or on behalf of staff undertaking either domestic and overseas visits.

To comply with your request would require that the expenditure of each team within this Office be checked to establish what, if any, purchases were made in relation to food and drink, as well as conduct searches of any and all expenses submitted, and then conduct further checks to establish whether any of these purchases fell within the specific terms of your request.

Under section 12 of the Act the Cabinet Office is not obliged to comply with your request and we will not be processing this further.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'N Howard'.

NICHOLAS HOWARD

Mr Eddie Burchett

Incoming

How much did the office of the Prime Minister spend on drinks and snacks in the months January-September. By 'drinks' this is any beverage (not including water, tea bags, coffee granules) but does include alcoholic beverages also which were not provided by Downing Street. Snacks refers to any item of food purchased which was not already provided by Downing Street.



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If you are unhappy with the level of service you have received from this office in relation to any aspect of your request, you may ask for an internal review.

You should contact:

Eirian Walsh Atkins
Cabinet Office
1 Horse Guards Road
London
SW1A 2HQ

Email: foi-team@cabinetoffice.gov.uk

You should note that the Cabinet Office will not normally accept an application for internal review if it is received more than two months after the date that the reply was issued.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner's Office for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF