



Information Rights Unit  
HM Treasury  
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Mr Mathew Kitson

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30 July 2020

Dear Mr Kitson

Ref: FOI2020/26660

## Freedom of Information Act 2000

Thank you for your enquiry of 2 July 2020, which we have considered under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (the FOI Act).

You asked for the following information:

*"I would like to know the amount of people, who earn over £50000 per year, that are receiving support through the CJRS (job retention scheme)"*

Following a search of our records, we can confirm that HM Treasury does hold some information within the scope of your request. We believe the information engages the exemption provided for by section 35(1)(a) (Formulation or development of Government Policy). This is a qualified exemption and we are required to balance the public interest between disclosure and non-disclosure.

By virtue of section 10(3) of the Act, where public authorities have to consider the balance of the public interest in relation to a request, they do not have to comply with the request until such time as is reasonable in the circumstances.

We always aim to reply to requests in full within 20 working days, even when the balancing of the public interest is required. However, in this case, the Treasury has not yet resolved the different considerations. We therefore need to take some additional time to assess whether the public interest in withholding the information outweighs the public interest in disclosing it.

We estimate it will take us to 13 August 2020 to complete our consideration, though we will of course reply sooner, if possible. We therefore expect to provide our substantive response by that date.

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>).