

DWP Central Freedom of Information Team

E-mail: [freedom-of-information-request@dwp.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:freedom-of-information-request@dwp.gsi.gov.uk)

Our Ref: FOI2018/06564

15<sup>th</sup> November 2018

Dear Mr Goddard,

**Freedom of Information Act – Request for Information**  
**Our Reference: FOI2018/06564**

Thank you for your Freedom of Information (Fol) request received on 19 October.

You asked:

I write to ask for information under the freedom of information act.

1. For each of the last 10 financial years, and the current financial year to 18.10.18 please state:

- the number of legal disputes between your department and other central government departments and non-departmental government bodies.

For each, please provide

- A list of the court cases related to the dispute, with current status (resolved or ongoing) -Total time period of the dispute from bringing of proceedings until conclusion.

- Total cost in legal fees and related administration costs to your department

2. For each of the last 10 financial years, and the current financial year to 18.10.18 please supply the number of legal disputes between yours department and a UK local council (including district, county, borough, unitary, parish).

For each, please provide

- A list of the court cases related to the dispute with current status (resolved or ongoing) -Total time period of the dispute from bringing of proceedings until conclusion.

- Total cost in legal fees and related administration costs to your department.

3.For each of the last 10 financial years, and the current financial year to 18.10.18 please state the number of legal disputes between your department and a regional mayoral department.

For each, please provide

- A list of the court cases related to the dispute, with current status (resolved or ongoing) -Total time period of the dispute from bringing of proceedings until conclusion.

- Total cost in legal fees and related administration costs to your department

## DWP Response:

I can confirm that we may hold information falling within the description specified in your request. However, we estimate that the cost of complying with your request would **exceed the appropriate limit for central Government, set by regulations at £600**. This represents the estimated cost of one person spending 3½ working days in determining whether the Department holds the information, and locating, retrieving and extracting it.

Under section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act the Department is not therefore obliged to comply with your request and we will not be processing it further. The Department is unable to provide any of the information you seek within the appropriate cost limit.

Under section 16 of the Act we should help you narrow your request so that it may fall beneath the cost limit. The topics you ask about are very broad, you should choose a more specific subject matter and specific time frame.

We will consider afresh any revised request however we cannot guarantee that any revised request will fall within the cost limit.

If you have any queries about this letter please contact me quoting the reference number above.

Yours sincerely,

DWP Central FoI Team

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## Your right to complain under the Freedom of Information Act

If you are not happy with this response you may request an internal review by e-mailing [freedom-of-information-request@dwpgsi.gov.uk](mailto:freedom-of-information-request@dwpgsi.gov.uk) or by writing to DWP, Central FoI Team, Caxton House, Tothill Street, SW1H 9NA. Any review request should be submitted within two months of the date of this letter.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner's Office for a decision. Generally the Commissioner cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted our own complaints procedure. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: The Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow Cheshire SK9 5AF  
[https://ico.org.uk/Global/contact\\_us](https://ico.org.uk/Global/contact_us) or telephone 0303 123 1113 or 01625 545745