



HM Treasury

Information Rights Unit
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Mr Geoff Hutton

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8 April 2019

Ref: FOI2019/04139

Dear Mr Hutton

Freedom of Information Act 2000: 2019 Loan Charge

Thank you for your enquiry of 14 March 2019, which we have considered under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (the FOI Act).

You asked for the following information:

"So, my first question is - how many suicides are HMRC aware of in relation to the Loan Charge?"

My second question. Did HMRC hire people knowing that they were using schemes?

My third question. Will Mel Stride actually agree to attend either the APPG or meet with HOL?

Following a search of our records, I can confirm that HM Treasury (HMT) does hold some information within the scope of your request. As your first and second questions relate to HM Revenue and Customs (HMRC), they may be better placed to answer your enquiries. HMRC's contact details can be found at the bottom of the page at the link below:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/hm-revenue-customs>

The information requested in your first question is publicly available. Under section 21 of the FOI Act, public authorities are not obliged to re-issue information where it is already publicly accessible. However, to be helpful I am including some further information on where to access this. A parliamentary question was answered on the issue and can be found here <https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-03-20/234778/>.

HMT does not hold information in relation to your second question.

Your last question does not fall within the scope of the FOI Act. The FOI Act provides a right to recorded information. In order to exercise this entitlement a request must describe the specific recorded information sought. We believe that the terms of your enquiry do not constitute a valid request for recorded information within the meaning of section 8(1)(c) of the FOI Act, as it is not a request for specific content.

However, to be helpful, we have treated this as routine correspondence.

The Chancellor and the Financial Secretary to the Treasury met several members of the All-Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) on 31 January 2019 and on 28 February senior officials from HMRC and HMT answered questions from Sir Edward Davey MP, as Chair of the APPG, Ruth Cadbury MP (Deputy Chair) as well as representatives of the Loan Charge Action Group (LCAG), which is acting as the APPG secretariat.

HMRC also provided written evidence to the APPG which can be found here www.gov.uk/government/publications/letter-from-ruth-stanier-to-the-loan-charge-all-party-parliamentary-group

If you have any queries about this letter, please contact us. Please quote the reference number above in any future communications.

Yours sincerely

IRU

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Email: 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.

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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>).

