



# HM TREASURY

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Ref: 10/309

Re: Freedom of Information Act 2000:

Thank you for your enquires dated 6 April 2010, two of which we received on 6 April, and the third on 7 April. I am treating your requests under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

2. You asked -

- ([request-32063-1fe87afe@whatdotheyknow.com](mailto:request-32063-1fe87afe@whatdotheyknow.com)): I would like to request the monetary values associated with the Programme Objects in the COINS database for the year 2009, for the Department of Work and Pensions broken down by:
  - NUTS 1 regions;
  - CAP or CUR;
  - ID or Non-ID;
  - CG or LA.
- ([request-32064-be96dcb3@whatdotheyknow.com](mailto:request-32064-be96dcb3@whatdotheyknow.com)): I would like to request the monetary values associated with the Programme Objects in the COINS database for the year 2009, for the Department of Health broken down by:
  - NUTS 1 regions;
  - CAP or CUR;
  - ID or Non-ID;
  - CG or LA.(these are the categories used in the Country and Regional Analysis).
- ([request-32135-5ec8d582@whatdotheyknow.com](mailto:request-32135-5ec8d582@whatdotheyknow.com)): I would like to request the monetary values associated with the Programme Objects in the COINS database for the year 2009, for all government departments broken down by:
  - Parent Programme Object Group;
  - NUTS 1 regions;
  - CAP or CUR;
  - ID or Non-ID;
  - CG or LA.(these are the categories used in the Country and Regional Analysis).

3. We have assumed that the first two requests are in effect part of the third, and have addressed them as one.



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4. The information you have requested is based around categorisations used by the Country and Regional Analyses (CRA). Whilst the data used for CRA is drawn from the COINS database, it is in parts aggregated, e.g. from Programme Objects to Programme Object Groups, and in parts sub-analysed, e.g. from Territory to NUTS 1 regions, with these changes made off COINS. It is therefore not possible to fully map from the CRA data directly to COINS data.

5. In our response of 25 January 2010 to your request for the COINS schema (our reference IRU 9/1049), we supplied you with a "schema substitute". That detailed the "tags" (or "fields") used in each dimension. That shows that there is not a "tag" called "NUTS 1", nor one called "CAP or CUR". But there are a number of "tags" within the Variable dimension that could relate to "CAP or CUR", whilst Programme Objects are contained in the Segment dimension. This confirms that CRA cannot be fully mapped to COINS, as well as demonstrating that monetary values are not held directly against Programme Objects, but are held, inter alia, against a combination of values from all dimensions. Nor is it clear what you mean exactly by the term "monetary values", as differing data types and statuses exist that impact on the identification of "monetary values". It is also unclear whether the data is being requested in aggregate form against a programme object or if it is disaggregated or "raw" data that is being requested. Nor it is clear from the third request whether data is requested in aggregate form or by individual department

6. We do not have a report available that would allow the specific and exact extraction of the data requested, where it can be mapped from CRA to COINS "tags" and where we have a clear understanding of the specifics of the request. One would have to be specially written, or an existing report extensively modified and/or manipulated, to attempt to identify the information sought and to aggregate relevant data from all the dimensions to report against individual Programme Objects. Even then, as explained above, it would not be possible to provide all the information requested.

7. Even if it were possible to identify what was possible from that requested within the available cost limit, it is considered the data would engage certain exemptions:

- data relating to the Security Services are exempt under section 23(1);
- data identifiers that are likely to engage intellectual property rights; and current/future years figures which are commercially sensitive to government, for example data on trading funds or public funded entities such as the BBC – in both respects are considered to be exempt under section 43(1) and 43(2) respectively;
- select data relating to the defence services that is likely to prejudice the capability, effectiveness or security of any relevant forces, are exempt under section 26(1)(b);
- current and future years data, which is subject to Government and Parliamentary revision, is exempt under section 35(1)(a);
- other data are exempt under section 36(2)(c).

8. If you have any queries about this letter, please contact me. It will be helpful to us if you remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.



Paul Morran  
Information Rights Unit

