



Home Office

HR Capabilities and  
Resourcing Directorate  
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[www.gov.uk/home-office](http://www.gov.uk/home-office)

Mr Edward Williams  
Via e-mail to: [request-694644-  
ca77b17f@whatdotheyknow.com](mailto:request-694644-ca77b17f@whatdotheyknow.com)

26 October 2020

Dear Mr Williams,

**Freedom of Information Request Reference 60521 & 60522**

Thank you for your e-mail dated 27 & 26 September 2020 in which you requested information regarding Home Office spend on Stonewall. Your request has been handled as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) 2000.

Your full request was as follows:

- 1. The Home Office purchase order/number for the 'rainbow laces x100', 29-Jul-16. £200.*
- 2. List of all persons, given free of charge, the rainbow laces and state how many you have left.*
- 3. The names and job title of all persons who can authorise spending on Stonewall.*
- 4. Provide all information showing how expenditure on Stonewall helps the UK general public.*
- 5. Provide the name and title of the person who authorised the following:*

*14-Feb-18 6,300.00 Stonewall In-house Allies Programme*

*6. Provide a list of all persons who attended pursuant to the above invoice for the Allies Programme.*

The information you have requested into two separate requests, has been amalgamated for the purposes of cost under section 12 (4). Therefore, the request below (ref 60522) has been included with this response.

*I would like to know how much the Home Office has given to Stonewall in membership, courses etc. in the last 5 years, provide the invoices. State who authorised the payments.*

To locate, retrieve and extract the requested information would breach the appropriate limit under section 12(1) of the FOIA. The £600 limit is based on work being carried out at a rate of £25 per hour, which equates to 24 hours of work per request. The cost of locating, retrieving and extracting information and preparing the response can be included in the costs for these purposes. The costs do not include considering whether any information is exempt from disclosure, overheads such as heating or lighting, or items such as photocopying or postage.

For part 1 of your request, this information can be retrieved within the cost limit and if you would like this information please let me know.

For parts 2 and 4 of your request, I can confirm that the specific distribution information regarding the laces is not held by Home Office but can confirm that these were used at a Home Office team event. As a department that is committed to creating an inclusive environment in which our staff can thrive and deliver their best to our service users, we see the benefits of expenditure for Stonewall directly related to supporting our LGBT+ staff and you may be interested in the following information provided in the links below.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/civil-service/about/equality-and-diversity>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/home-office/about/equality-and-diversity#diversity-and-inclusion-strategy>

For part 3 your request, as there are no restrictions to submit purchase orders for Stonewall goods and services, this would mean that any member of staff in the process can authorise these purchase orders at each stage. However, job titles are not held centrally and to retrieve this information would require a manual search of all relevant staff members and breach the cost limit as outlined above.

For part 5, 6 and payments for Stonewall membership, the Home Office can retrieve this information within the cost limit, however it is likely that this information would be withheld under section 40 (Personal Information).

If you are dissatisfied with this response you may request an independent internal review of our handling of your request by submitting a complaint within two months to [foirequests@homeoffice.gov.uk](mailto:foirequests@homeoffice.gov.uk), quoting reference 60521 and 60522. If you ask for an internal review, it would be helpful if you could say why you are dissatisfied with the response.

As part of any internal review the Department's handling of your information request would be reassessed by staff who were not involved in providing you with this response. If you were to remain dissatisfied after an internal review, you would have a right of complaint to the Information Commissioner as established by section 50 of the FOIA.

Yours sincerely

Andy Woodgate  
**HR, Capabilities & Resources**

## Annex A

If you remain dissatisfied after an internal review, you would have a right of complaint to the Information Commissioner as established by section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act.

The Information Commissioner  
Wycliffe House  
Water Lane  
Wilmslow  
Cheshire SK9 5AF