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Peter Kellard

FOI Reference: 19907

Email:  
[request-85304-7c233730@whatdotheyknow.com](mailto:request-85304-7c233730@whatdotheyknow.com)

19 September 2011

Dear Mr Kellard

Thank you for your enquiry of 5 September where you have requested statistical information on used Certificates of Sponsorship (CoS) for Tier 2 Intra Company Transfers (ICT) under the Points Based System (PBS). Your request has been dealt with under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

You requested a breakdown by minimum, average, mode and maximum declared salary and allowance amounts by Standard Occupation Classification (SOC) (for Tier 2 (ICT) used COS) by month from the introduction of the PBS in 2008 amounts including a breakdown of the same information by top 25 sponsors.

Under section 12 of the Act, the UK Border Agency is not obliged to comply with an information request where to do so would exceed the cost limit.

I can confirm that we hold information which you have requested but to locate and retrieve this information would exceed the £600 cost limit specified in the Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2004.

The information you requested is not readily accessible from our management information systems as it would require running individual raw data reports for each separate part of the request resulting in over 6400 reports. This would exceed the cost limit under the Freedom of Information Act and we are therefore unable to comply with your request.

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.

If you refine your request we might still decline to answer it if the total cost exceeds £600, or if it is possible that an individual may be identified in the data provided.

We will be able to provide you with an update of your previous request for information FOI reference 19690 should you require this information.

I hope this is of help to you. 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 the address below, quoting reference 19907. If you ask for an internal review, it would be helpful if you could say why you are dissatisfied with the response.

Information Access Team  
Home Office  
Ground Floor,  
Seacole Building  
2 Marsham Street  
London SW1P 4DF

email: [info.access@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:info.access@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk).

As part of any internal review our handling of your information request will be reassessed by staff not involved in providing you with this response. If you remain dissatisfied after this internal review, you would have a right of complaint to the Information Commissioner as established by section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act.

Yours sincerely

Daniela Walker