

George Brown request-567255-17277cb9@whatdotheyknow.com

Disclosure Team Ministry of Justice 102 Petty France London SW1H 9AJ

data.access@justice.gov.uk

9 May 2019

Dear Mr Brown

Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Request – 190410016

Thank you for your requests dated 10 April 2019 in which you asked for the following information from the Ministry of Justice (MoJ):

I'd like to make a request under the Freedom of Information act for all transactions over £25,000 from October to December 2017 and from January 2018 to a month in arrears from the date at which you publish in response to this request.

I'd like to make a request under the Freedom of Information act for all transactions over £25,000 from April 2011 to a month in arrears from the date at which you publish in response to this request.

Please provide the data in a machine readable format (preferably csv). As a minimum, please make sure to include the date, value and recipient of each transaction. Please also provide details on the procurement category of each transaction if you have it.

Your request has been handled under the FOIA.

I can confirm that the MoJ holds the information that you have requested.

Information on spending from 2011 – February 2019 is exempt from disclosure under section 21 of the FOIA, because it is reasonably accessible to you.

The information can be accessed via the following links:

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/ministry-of-justice-spending-over-25000-2019 https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/ministry-of-justice-spending-over-25000-2018 https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/ministry-of-justice-spend-over-25000-2017 https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/ministry-of-justice-spend-over-25000-2016 https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/ministry-of-justice-spend-over-25000-2015 https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/ministry-of-justice-spend-over-25000-2014 https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/ministry-of-justice-spend-over-25000-2013 https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/spend-over-25-000 (2012) https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/spend-over-25-000-archive (Years 2011 and prior)

Information on spending from March 2019 is exempt from disclosure under section 22(1) of the FOIA, because it is intended for future publication. This is a qualified exemption which means that the decision to disclose the information is subject to the public interest test. When assessing whether or not it was in the public interest to disclose the information

to you, we took into account the following factors:

Public interest considerations favouring disclosure

• Timely government transparency is crucial to delivering value for money and helps ensure the highest standards amongst senior government representatives by being accountable.

Public interest considerations favouring withholding the information

• It is in the public interest to adhere to the existing publication process, which includes time for the data to be collated and properly verified before being placed in the public domain. This ensures that accurate information is available to all members of the public at the same time. Premature publication could undermine the principle of making the information available to all at the same time through the official publication process.

On balance, I consider the public interest favours withholding the information at this time.

Please be advised that the information is due to be published in May 2019 and will be available under the link for 2019 data above.

Appeal Rights

If you are not satisfied with this response you have the right to request an internal review by responding in writing to one of the addresses below within two months of the date of this response.

data.access@justice.gov.uk

Disclosure Team, Ministry of Justice, 10.14, 102 Petty France, London, SW1H 9AJ

You do have the right to ask the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) to investigate any aspect of your complaint. However, please note that the ICO is likely to expect internal complaints procedures to have been exhausted before beginning their investigation.

Yours sincerely

Financial Reporting, Transactions and Governance Team MoJ Group Finance HQ