



Ministry of Housing,
Communities &
Local Government

**Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local
Government**

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Dora Homoki

Date: **30 September 2019**

Dear Dora Homoki

Freedom of Information Act 2000 - 4427614

Thank you for your request for information which we received on 2 September 2019 and processed under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

You requested: *"Thank you for publishing your spend data here:*

<https://gbr01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.gov.uk%2Fgovernment%2Fcollections%2Fmhclg-departmental-spending-over-0&data=02%7C01%7Cmhclgcorrespondence%40communities.gov.uk%7Cc504e9c5c60c45355e9e08d72fa37313%7Cbf3468109c7d43dea87224a2ef3995a8%7C0%7C0%7C637030251360289787&sdata=5pqfYS7oCglbzbxa9z9Zmr8lau%2F6GsempdijTHyEOI%3D&reserved=0>

However, I notice that you haven't published any spending data since April 2019. I'd like to make a request under the Freedom of Information act for all transactions over £25,000 from May 2019 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 team may also be interested in the guidance on producing spending data:

<https://gbr01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.gov.uk%2Fgovernment%2Fpublications%2Fguidance-for-publishing-spend-over-25000&data=02%7C01%7Cmhclgcorrespondence%40communities.gov.uk%7Cc504e9c5c60c45355e9e08d72fa37313%7Cbf3468109c7d43dea87224a2ef3995a8%7C0%7C0%7C637030251360289787&sdata=h4lqyUOVd6%2FJynL5FbNo%2BqgsurzaB0LwJmeST4OfFU%3D&reserved=0>

I can confirm that we hold this information (May – August 2019), but I am withholding it as explained below.

This information is exempt from disclosure under Section 22 of the FOI Act as it is going to be published and it is reasonable not to make it available until then.

Information falling within this exemption must still be provided however unless it is not in the public interest to do so. There is a public interest in providing this information as it would increase transparency about Government spend.

However, this information is due to be published shortly and currently is going through final checks and clearances to ensure accuracy. Disclosing the information at this stage could potentially lead to errors in the data as the final checks have not yet been completed. When published, the data will be available at the following link:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/mhclg-departmental-spending-over-250>

I have therefore decided, on balance, that it is not in the public interest to disclose this information at this time.

Complaints procedure

If you are unhappy with this response, we will review it and report back to you. (This is called an internal review.) If you want us to do this, let us know by return email within two months of receiving this response. You can also ask by letter addressed to:

Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government
Knowledge and Information Access Team
4th Floor SE, Fry Building
2 Marsham Street
London, SW1P 4DF

If you are unhappy with the outcome of this internal review, you can ask the independent Information Commissioner to investigate. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at email address casewoxx@xxx.xxx.xx or use their online form at ico.org.uk/concerns or call them on 0303 123 1113.

Yours sincerely

MHCLG FOI Team