

Mr M Wild

Via email:

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19th September 2011

Our Reference: FOI-72392 - Wild

Freedom of Information Request

Dear Mr Wild.

Thank you for your email of 15th September 2011, in which you are seeking to obtain the following information from the Ministry of Justice (MoJ):

"Information about the total current amount outstanding in court fines; The amount of any fines that may have been written off within the past 5 years; Details of how many private bailiff companies are working on behalf of HMCTS and the names of these companies;

Confirm whether these companies have a contract with HMCTS and when it expires; A copy of any such contact"

Your request is being handled under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and has been passed to the appropriate business unit within MoJ who have responsibility for Her Majesty's Courts and Tribunals Service (HMCTS) court operations.

Under the Act, the department is required to provide you with a response within 20 working days. I will write to you in response to your request for information by 12th October 2011.

The Freedom of Information Act includes a number of exemptions to releasing information. Some of these are qualified exemptions which require us to consider whether it is in the public interest to disclose or withhold the information. In these circumstances we may need more time to consider your request, and if this is the case I will write to you by the date above to inform you of when you can expect to receive a response.

If you have any queries regarding this request please do not hesitate to contact me, quoting ref: FOI-72392 in all future correspondence.

Yours sincerely

Meena Pabla HMCTS Civil & Family Operations