



HM Revenue & Customs

Mr Sam Bude

By email: request-438046-
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Commercial Directorate
Freedom of Information Team
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Web www.gov.uk

Date: 8th December 2017
Our ref: FOI2017/02039

Dear Mr Bude

Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA)

Thank you for your request under the FOIA, which was received on 10th November, for the following information:

“Please provide the following answers for the Central Government Department for 2016/17

1. Total agency spend
2. Split the total agency spend by staffing category (categorise as you would) (e.g. admin, IT, legal etc.)
3. Total number of agency workers
4. Split the total number of agency workers by staffing group (categorise as you would) (e.g. admin, IT, legal etc.)

Does the Central Government Department use a third party to manage the supply of temporary/agency staff? If so, please provide the following details:

1. Name of third party
2. Description of services offered
3. Contract start date
4. Contract end date
5. Annual cost to the department for 2016/17
6. Was this service procured through a framework? If so, please state which framework
7. Whom within the department was responsible for authorising/signing the contract – please provide their name and job title

Revenue

1. What is the Central Government Department’s total Departmental Expenditure Limit (DEL) for 2016/17

Please provide the total DEL split by the following:

- a. Resource/Revenue
- b. Capital

2. Please provide the Government Department's allocation of funding, providing detail on the DEL allocation for all bodies within the overall central government departments, including ALBs for 2016/17"

I can confirm that HMRC hold the information you have requested. However, to provide as the request currently stands would exceed the cost limit set out in the FOIA.

Section 12(1) of the FOIA means public authorities are not obliged to comply with a request for information if it estimates the cost of complying would exceed the appropriate limit. The appropriate limit for central government is set at £600. This represents the estimated cost of one person spending 3.5 working days determining whether the department holds the information, and locating, retrieving and extracting the information.

Where section 12 applies to one part of a request we refuse all of the request under the cost limit as advised by the Information Commissioner's Office.

We believe that the cost providing total agency spend prior to October 2016 and further breakdown of the agency spend by staffing category would involve extensive examination of our files would exceed the appropriate limit. Consequently, we are not obliged to comply with your request.

Although we cannot answer your request at the moment, we may be able to answer a refined request within the cost limit. You may wish to consider requesting the following information;

- (a) Total agency spend from October 2016 to date
- (b) Number of agency workers
- (c) Breakdown of agency workers by staffing group
- (d) Procurement of agency staff
- (e) HMRC expenditures limit and how it is allocated for 2016-2017.

Please be aware that we cannot guarantee at this stage that a refined request will fall within the FOIA cost limit, or that other exemptions will not apply.

If you are not satisfied with this reply you may request a review by emailing foi.review@hmrc.gsi.gov.uk. You must request a review within 2 months of the date of this letter. It would help us carry out our review if you set out the aspects of the reply that concern you and why you are dissatisfied.

If you are not content with the outcome of an internal review, you can complain to the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO). The ICO will not usually consider a case unless you have exhausted the internal review procedure provided by HMRC. You can make a complaint through the ICO's website at: www.ico.org.uk.

Yours sincerely

Freedom of Information Team