

1) I am writing to request the details of all temporary and/or short term employment contracts issued at DSA since July 2007 to the present day (until 1 July 2011).

I would like this information to be broken down by employment agency and by the DSA business area.

At Annex B, you can find information on temporary and short term employment contracts issued by DSA from 2007/8 to 1 July 2011. This information is broken down by employment agency and DSA business area.

We have provided you with information for April to June 2007 as information on the spend on temporary and short term employment contracts is captured by financial year on our Finance system.

There are some negative figures against DSA business areas and employment agencies. This is due to over-accruing in previous years.

There are also some small figures against DSA business areas and employment agencies in some years, for example in 2011/12. This is due to the correction of earlier costs on temporary and short term employment contracts from previous years.

You will see that some of the spend on temporary and short term employment contracts for 2008/9 to 2010/11 at Annex B is not allocated to a business area within DSA or an employment agency. This information is not held, in a central record, on our finance system and would require us to manually review invoices and paperwork associated with each temporary and/or short term contract within this period.

To review the invoices and paperwork associated with each temporary and/or short term contract would exceed the 24 working hours as prescribed in section 12 (1) (cost of compliance exceeds appropriate limit) of the FoIA. This information is therefore exempt from release. A full breakdown of this exemption can be found at Annex C.

The appropriate limit, as prescribed by the Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2004, is £600 for Central Government and £450 for other public authorities, with staff costs calculated at a rate of £25 per hour. When calculating whether the appropriate limit is exceeded, authorities can take account of the costs of determining whether the information is held, locating and retrieving the information, and extracting the information from other documents. They cannot take account of the costs involved with considering whether information is exempt under the Act.

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