

FOI Release

Information released under the Freedom of Information Act

Title: Employees who Received Remuneration of more than £100,000

Date of release: 14 October 2014

Information request

1. The total number of employees who received remuneration equal to, or in excess of £100,000 in 2013-14.
2. For those who received remuneration In excess of £150,000:
 - a) the employee's name
 - b) the employee's job title
 - c) the remuneration received by the employee
 - d) an itemised list of expenses claims made by the employee. If an itemised list is not available, please provide the amount the employee claimed in expenses in 2013-14

Information released

The information provided relates to the financial year 1 April 2013 to 31 March 2014. All answers below include BIS, UKTI, Go-Science & Business Bank. Please note that we have defined remuneration as applying to an employee's pay band.

1. The total number of employees who received remuneration equal to or in excess of £100,000 in the 2013-14 financial year was 50.
2. For those who received remuneration in excess of £150,000, some of the information detailing the employee's name, job title and remuneration received is already in the public domain and is therefore exempt under Section 21 of the Act as we are not required to provide information which is already reasonably accessible to you. This information can be found in the Department's Annual Report and Accounts for 2013-14 (See Remuneration Package Chapter - Page 74 onwards):
https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/329057/BIS_annual_report_and_accounts_2013_-_2014.pdf

Details of some of the expense claims made by these employees is already in the public domain and is therefore exempt under Section 21 of the Act as we are not required to provide information which is already reasonably accessible to you. This information can be found in the following links:

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/253110/april-june-2013-disclosure-director-general-expenses.doc

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/268146/director-general-expenses-july-september-2013.pdf

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/314041/October - December 2013 BIS quarterly publications DGs - final.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/314041/October_-_December_2013_BIS_quarterly_publications_DGs_-_final.pdf)

Further details of employees who received remuneration in excess of £150,000, and which is not listed in the above links, can be found in the attached spreadsheet.

Information relating to expenses after December 2013 is being withheld under Section 22 of the Act which exempts information which is intended for future publication. This information is due for publication on the www.gov.uk website in the next few months.

Section 22 is a qualified exemption and we have therefore considered the public interest test. We recognise there is a public interest in being open and transparent in sharing this information as this information relates to the expenditure of public money. However, public interest is best served by ensuring the information published is quality assured and in a consistent and comprehensive format before publication.

Section 22 acknowledges that public authorities must have freedom to be able to determine their own publication timetables, in order to deal with the necessary preparation, administration and context of publication. Where information is intended to be made available, individual requests for information should not determine the publication timetables of public authorities.

We also note that Section 22 states that public authorities should not be able to avoid putting information in the public domain by adopting unreasonable publication timetables or an 'intention' to publish where there is little prospect of that happening within a reasonable timescale. As such we would like to assure you that there existed an intent to publish prior to the receipt of your FOI request.

Having considered the public interest, we consider that the public interest in disclosing this information is outweighed by the public interest considerations in favour of withholding the information. The Department's decision is therefore to withhold the information relating to expenses after December 2013.