

FOI Release
Information released under the Freedom of Information Act

Title: Income to the UK Government from processing patent applications and renewals

Date of release: 17 June 2013

Information request:

What is the total annual income to the UK Government via the UKIPO for
(a) The processing and granting of ALL patents. For each year since 2000.
(b) ALL patent renewals. For each year since 2000.

Information released:

The attached table gives all the figures which we have available. The figures for renewals (from European patents designating the UK and from UK patent renewals) are missing for years 1999/00 to 2001/02.

The reason for this is we estimate that the IT work involved in extracting a breakdown of income figures retrospectively from those years would cost us in excess of the appropriate limit set down for FOI requests. (At that time we only published a total figure for gross patent income.)

I should explain that section 12 of the FOI Act makes provision for public authorities to refuse requests for information where the cost of dealing with them would exceed the appropriate limit, which for central government is set at £600. This represents the estimated cost of one person spending 3.5 working days in determining whether the department holds the information, locating, retrieving and extracting the information.

We estimate that it would take us in excess of 3.5 working days to determine appropriate material and locate, retrieve and extract the information in reference to that part of your request for which financial data is not readily available.

Please note also that the figures for FY 2012/13 are exempt under s.22 of the FOI Act, being information which is intended for future publication. The reason why we cannot release this information at this time is because it forms part of our Annual Report which must be laid before Parliament prior to public release.

This should take place sometime before the end of this month and will appear shortly on our website at: <http://www.ipso.gov.uk/ourpublications-review.htm> .

[PTO]

FY	Total patent income, including renewals £000	Renewal Income from European patents designating the UK £000	Income from UK, patents £000
1999/00	32,023		
2000/01	32,674		
2001/02	32,947		
2002/03	34,105	19,503	10,148
2003/04	34,850	20,506	9,780
2004/05	35,745	21,715	9,494
2005/06	36,386	22,815	9,340
2006/07	38,036	24,567	9,519
2007/08	39,128	25,876	9,589
2008/09	39,948	26,743	9,577
2009/10	42,707	29,214	10,188
2010/11	48,499	32,949	11,256
2011/12	54,328	37,550	12,531