

Freedom of Information request 710/2011

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Information request

Adviser Discretionary Fund - funding allocated to training with a breakdown of the type and cost over £500 of each award, prior to April 2010 and post April 2010, giving dates of each award.

DWP response

The total spent on training from within the Adviser Discretionary Fund (ADF) budget in 2009/10 was £8,398,000. In 2010/11 (eleven months) it has dropped to £79,000. The reason for the reduction in spend is due to an operational change in the purchase of training, using other programmes rather than ADF. In terms of training, ADF would still be used when customers are required to undertake tests (which may involve a short training session) or obtain certificates before they can take up a specific job offer. But the majority of one off training opportunities are now purchased through other programmes.

In terms of the breakdown of type and cost requested, no central record is kept of this information. We estimate that the cost of complying with this request would exceed the appropriate limit of £600. The appropriate limit has been specified in regulations and 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. Under Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act the department is not obliged to comply with your request and we will not be processing this part of your request further.