

Freedom of Information request 2754/2011

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Information request

'What retraining has been paid for by the various Job Centres in the Greater Manchester (East and West) District for the financial year 2010-2011?'

DWP response

We cannot disaggregate employment programme costs to individual Jobcentre level, as the contracts under which these services are provided generally cover a larger geographical area. For example, with Flexible New Deal the contract covers both the Greater Manchester (East and West) and Greater Manchester (Central) Districts. The figures that follow are therefore given at either district or contract level.

Your question asks specifically about retraining. Generally, it is not possible to say exactly how much employment programme spend is classified as such. For example, with Flexible New Deal payments are made on results and the providers have freedom to decide which specific services are best for the individual. It is not therefore possible to say how much of the money paid would specifically relate to training. The figures that follow represent the overall cost of providing the programmes.

Finally, in terms of scope, as your previous FOI requests have been about provision for Long-Term Unemployed, I include in my response those programmes targeted towards these specific clients rather than, for example, lone parents or people with a disability.

Subject to these caveats, the relevant amounts are as per the following table:

Programme	Amount spent in 2010-11 financial year
Flexible New Deal (GM East and West and GM Central Districts)	£37.0m
Jobcentre Plus Support Contract (GM East and West and GM Central Districts)	£4.7m
Support for Newly Unemployed Professionals (GM East and West District)	£0.4m
Basic Skills Training allowances and expenses (GM East and West District) - NB the actual cost of the training itself is covered by the Skills Funding Agency	£0.4m
Rapid Response Service (GM East and West District)	£14.8k
Customer Services Directorate Flexible Fund (GM East and West District)	£12.5k