

# **Freedom of Information request 85/2014**

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## **Information request**

On the basis that you are unable to provide a full response on basis of cost, I wish to amend my request to the below.

I wish to make a request under the Freedom of Information Act for the following information for copies of all correspondence in the last six months between UK Government Ministers or officials in your government department and (1) Alistair Darling MP, leader of the Better Together Campaign and/or (2) any Better Together Officials regarding any of the "Scotland Analysis" series.

## **DWP response**

Unfortunately, we cannot confirm whether the Department holds any information falling within the description specified in your request. Any such information is not generally separately identified, collated or centrally recorded. However, one specific type of correspondence where we do have collated electronic records is that between Members of Parliament and Government Ministers. A search of that database has been conducted, and although some correspondence between Alistair Darling MP and DWP Ministers is recorded during the period from 1 July 2013 to 31 December 2013 none of it relates to any of the 'Scotland Analysis' series nor to the 'Better Together Campaign'.

We estimate that the cost of complying with any other part of your request would exceed the appropriate limit of £600. The appropriate limit has been specified in regulations and for central Government it is set at £600. This represents the estimated cost of one person spending 3½ working days in determining whether the Department holds the information, and locating, retrieving and extracting 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 your request further.

If you were to make a new request for a narrower category of information, it may be that we could comply with that request within the appropriate limit, although this would be unlikely in this instance because, as we have explained, the Department does not separately identify, collate or centrally record such information.