

## Information Released under Freedom of Information Act

**Subject:** Request for Late Filing Penalty statistics

**Date Released:** 22 March 2016

**Summary of request:** The enquirer requested Late Filing Penalty statistics

### Information Released

1. **How many Late Filing Penalties were levied in the years 2013, 2014 and 2015 and how many so far in 2016?**
2. **What income was demanded for Companies House by these levies, and how much received?**
3. **How many appeals against Late Filing Penalties were lodged in 2013, 2014 and 2015?**
4. **How many of these Appeals were successful and how many rejected?**

Companies House publish extensive statistics relating to Late Filing Penalties. I have provided the link for the Late filing statistics 2015-16, 2014-15 which can be viewed on our website. 2013-14 can be found on the National Archives website. The statistics show penalties imposed, appeals received and penalties where discretion used not to collect (successful appeals).

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/late-filing-penalty-statistics-2015-2016>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/late-filing-penalty-statistics-2014-2015>

<http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/20141104103730/http://www.companieshouse.gov.uk/about/corporateDocuments/lateFilingPenaltiesStatistics2013-2014.pdf>

The revenue received from Late Filing Penalties is shown on our Annual Report (please see page 72)

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/446159/Annual\\_Report\\_201415.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/446159/Annual_Report_201415.pdf)

5. **How many Late Filing Penalties have been levied in the years 2013, 2014 and 2015 involving objections by Companies House staff to the portrayal of the relevant Company name in Reports and Accounts?**

Having made enquires within our IT department they have run a programme to find companies who were issued with an LFP after having an LFP on the received date of accounts with a rejected date of accounts up to 10 days before for the reject reason of name/number mismatch.

Companies who had an LFP on the received date of accounts with a rejected date of accounts up to 10 days before for reject reason name/number mismatch for **2013** (01/01/13 - 31/12/2013) = **605**

Companies who had an LFP on the received date of accounts with a rejected date of accounts up to 10 days before for reject reason name/number mismatch for **2014** (01/01/14 - 31/12/2014) = **495**

Companies who had an LFP on the received date of accounts with a rejected date of accounts up to 10 days before for reject reason name/number mismatch for **2015** (01/01/15 - 31/12/2015) = **474**

- 6. Have any instructions been given to Companies House staff in the years 2013, 2014, 2015 or 2016 to be more assiduous in raising objections to details such as the exact Company names in Reports and Accounts, and where were these publicly reported?**

There has been no change to the company name policy and no instructions to be more assiduous in detail such as exact company name during 2013 to date.

- 7. Were these instructions given to generate further income and were any incentives offered to staff to generate such income, and where were these publicly reported?**

As stated in question 6 there were no such instructions for company name. Late filing penalties are imposed to encourage directors to file their accounts and reports on time, because this information is required for the public record and not to generate any income.

- 8. Did these instructions take into any account the impact on small voluntary organisations which are limited companies, and was that impact publicly reported?**

All companies irrespective of size must send their accounts and reports to Companies House. If the accounts and reports are submitted late the law imposes an automatic penalty.