



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs

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[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Our ref: RFI 7206
Date: 27 February 2015

Dear [REDACTED]

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION: Cost of the National Noise Attitude Survey 2012

Thank you for your request for information, which we received on 26 January 2015, about the total cost of the National Noise Attitude Survey 2012. As you know, we have handled your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

Noise is a serious issue for many people in the UK, generating significant economic costs. Road traffic noise alone is estimated to cost the English economy at least £7-10 billion a year.

The National Noise Attitude Survey (NNAS) 2012 was a major face-to-face survey, designed to be representative of the UK population. Over 2700 people were interviewed about their attitudes to environmental, neighbour and neighbourhood noise and the impact it has on them. This includes noise from transportation sources, noise from inside and outside other people's homes, and noise arising from within the community, such as industrial and entertainment premises. The last survey of this kind was conducted in 2000 and the 2012 survey was also designed to examine changes over the last decade. The survey helps to inform government noise policy and particularly in understanding the potential impacts of noise.

Defra spent £460,063 in total on the National Noise Attitude Survey 2012. This included the sample design, questionnaire design, survey and fieldwork costs, analysis of a large dataset and peer review. The project value stated on the website¹ where the survey is published reflects costs for the main contractor responsible for the survey and fieldwork, and not for the work of other contactors. This main contractor was competitively tendered through a framework contract held by the then Central Office of Information and represented best value for money from the bids received.

¹<http://randd.defra.gov.uk/Default.aspx?Menu=Menu&Module=More&Location=None&ProjectID=18288&FormSearch=Y&Publisher=1&SearchText=no0237&SortString=ProjectCode&SortOrder=Asc&Paging=10#Description>



In keeping with the spirit and effect of the FOIA and the government's Transparency Agenda, all information is assumed to be releasable to the public unless exempt. Therefore, the information released to you will now be published on www.gov.uk together with any related information that will provide a key to its wider context. Please note that this will not include your personal data.

I attach Annex A, which explains the copyright that applies to the information being released to you.

I also attach Annex B giving contact details should you be unhappy with the service you have received.

If you have any queries about this letter please contact the address below.

Yours sincerely,



Information Rights Team

InformationRequests@defra.gsi.gov.uk

Annex A

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Annex B

Complaints

If you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request you may make a complaint or appeal against our decision under section 17(7) of the FOIA within 40 working days of the date of this letter. Please write to [REDACTED] Head of Information Standards, Area 4D, Nobel House, 17 Smith Square, London, SW1P 3JR (email: requestforinfo@defra.gsi.gov.uk) and he will arrange for an internal review of your case. Details of Defra's complaints procedure are on our [website](#).

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, section 50 of the FOIA gives you the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. Please note that generally the Information Commissioner cannot make a decision unless you have first exhausted Defra's own complaints procedure. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF