

Freedom of Information request 442/2014

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Information request

'A breakdown of data from all tables listed below (which are also in the attached document), broken down by English cases and Scottish cases. I would like the data in the exact format as shown in the tables in the attached document, for the same time period.

Table 1: Venue for regulatory offence sentencing

Table 2: Cases involving breaches of HSWA, regulations or a combination

Table 3: Average fine per offence charged in the lower courts

Table 4: Fine level per offence in the lower courts (cases involving breaches of regulations only)

Table 5: Use of custodial sentences or equivalent (suspended or community order).'

DWP response

Although the information you have requested is likely to be held on HSE's Corporate Operational Information System (COIN), it is not held in a format that is readily accessible and the only way to obtain it would be to manually review every COIN record.

DWP estimate that the cost of complying with your request in full would significantly 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 in excess of 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.

I have reviewed your request with regard to Section 43 (2) of the Act and I am satisfied that the exemption under Section 43 (2) of the Act was applied correctly in that while we hold the information to answer your question with a yes or no answer, that answer is commercially sensitive and therefore exempt from release.