

Information Released under Freedom of Information Act

Subject: Request for statistics relating to male and female 'mean' and 'median' earnings

Date Released: 8 July 2016

Summary of request: The enquirer requested statistics relating to male and female 'mean' and 'median' earnings

Information Released

You have requested the following information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA):

- * Please disclose the mean earnings for male employees and the mean earnings for female employees for the most recent year for which you have figures and please state which year;**
- * Please disclose the median earnings for male employees and the median earnings for female employees for the most recent year for which you have figures and please state which year;**
- * Please disclose the number of male employees by quartile salary bands and the number of female employees by quartile salary bands.**
- * If within the limits allowable under the FOIA please also provide the respective figures for questions 1-3 for the preceding 12 month period.**

Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act is a provision which provides that a public authority is not obliged to comply with requests where the cost of complying would exceed a set limit known as the appropriate limit. The appropriate limit represents the estimated cost of one person spending 3.5 working days in determining whether the Department holds the information, locating, retrieving and extracting the information.

Companies House (CH) does not hold the information in the format that you require and to comply with your request would require a substantial amount of manual work in the gathering and analysis of this data.

I am of the view that to comply with your request would exceed the appropriate limit and that this information is exempt by virtue of section 12 of the FOIA. If you wish to consider refining your request by narrowing its scope, we will be in a position to consider your request again. However, as any similar request is likely to require analysis of the same set of data it is likely that any subsequent request based upon this will also exceed the cost limit due to the level of manual intervention required.

However, to be of assistance, the following link is to CH's Annual Report and Accounts for 2014/15 where the staff costs are reported on page 46:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/companies-house-annual-report-and-accounts-2014-to-2015>

In addition, the Annual Report and Accounts for 2015/16 will be published shortly.