

Freedom of Information request 3529/2011

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Information request

- a) How much your department spent on transcription of comments by ministers in public/media appearances etc?
- b) The three largest bills for a transcription, with the name of the minister involved and date and brief description of the event.
- c) The names of the transcription companies used.

DWP response

- a) How much your department spent on transcription of comments by ministers in public media appearances etc?**

The figures available for the cost of transcriptions are not separated in the way you have asked the question. The overall spend on transcriptions for the past three years are shown below.

Financial Year	Cost (excluding VAT) £
2009/10	9755.00
2010/11	11625.00 ¹
2011/12	2125.00 ²

¹ This includes £1,000 spent on regional transcripts

² Total spend at 30 November 2011

- b) The largest bills for a transcription, with the name of the minister involved and date and brief description of event**

The figures in a) above includes all transcription expenditure for the Department as a whole. The costs are not itemised under a particular Minister's name.

- c) The names of the transcription companies used**

The Media Monitoring Unit in the Central Office of Information is used for national media transcription. In exceptional circumstances, once in the past three years, the Department used the service of TNS.