

XXXX
XXXX

data.access@justice.gsi.gov.uk

December 2018

Dear XXXX,

Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Request – 181121009

You asked for the following information from the Ministry of Justice (MoJ):

- 1. Please provide the information you hold on the annual cost of juries at courts and tribunals administered by HMCTS. I would like the most accurate figure you can provide based on all related costs. For instance the cost of administration staff and their accommodation, the cost of all compensation to jurors including loss of earnings and expenses, and overnight accommodation. Please add any other costs that HMCTS attributes to providing a jury service.**
- 2. Please also provide the number of jurors who served and the number stood down before trial for each year.**

Please express the costs and number of jurors on an annual basis according to your financial accounting year for the following years: 2017-18 2016-17 2007-08

Your request has been handled under the FOIA. For ease of reference I have numbered your questions.

It has been passed to me because I have responsibility for answering requests relating to data in Her Majesty's Courts and Tribunals Service (HMCTS). HMCTS is an executive agency of the MoJ and is responsible for the administration of the magistrates' courts, the Crown Court, the County Court, the Family Court, the High Court, Court of Appeal and tribunals in England and Wales and non-devolved tribunals in Scotland and Northern Ireland.

I can confirm that the MoJ holds the information that you have requested and I have provided it below.

Regarding Question one, HMCTS does publish juror costs in its Annual Report and Accounts. That information is exempt from disclosure under section 21 of the FOIA because it is reasonably accessible to you at:

Page 123 for 2017/18

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/723066/HMCTS_Annual_Report___Accounts_2017-2018_web.pdf

Page 99 for 2016/17

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/630426/HMCTS_Annual_Report_and_Accounts_201617_Web.pdf

Page 63 for 2007/08

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/248545/0741.pdf

In addition, the cost of the Juror Summoning Bureau for the periods requested was:-

2007-08	2016-17	2017-18
£ '000	£ '000	£ '000
999	1,004	1,338

Notes regarding the above data which is provided outside of published statistics.

- These data are only direct costs and do not include any apportioned overheads, including the costs of accommodation.

Regarding Question two, we do not have a category of “stood down” within our Crown Court case management and management information systems. I have taken your question to refer to the numbers of Jurors summoned who served, and jurors who responded to a summons but did not serve.

Further, our current juror administrative system does not provide data as far back as 2007-08. Prior to March 2016 data were recorded manually by Court staff. The FOIA does not oblige a public authority to create information to answer a request if the requested information is not held. The duty is to only provide the recorded information held.

Year	2016-17	2017-18
Jurors summoned	264,808	261,323
Jurors who served	221,234	217,569
Jurors who did not serve	17,182	16,913

Notes regarding the above data.

1. Although care is taken when processing and analysing the data, the details are subject to inaccuracies inherent in any large-scale recording system, and is the best data that is available at the time of publication.
2. Figure for Jurors summoned also includes those who did not respond to the summons to appear for jury service as well those who did and did not serve.
3. Figures are taken from the JUROR system which came into use from March 2016.
4. Data are taken from a live management information system and can change over time.
5. Data are management information and are not subject to the same level of checks as official statistics
6. The data provided is the most recent available and for that reason might differ slightly from any previously published information.
7. Data has not been cross referenced with case files.

Appeal Rights

If you are not satisfied with this response you have the right to request an internal review by responding in writing to one of the addresses below within two months of the date of this response.

data.access@justice.gov.uk

Disclosure Team, Ministry of Justice, 10.38, 102 Petty France, London, SW1H 9AJ

You do have the right to ask the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) to investigate any aspect of your complaint. However, please note that the ICO is likely to expect internal complaints procedures to have been exhausted before beginning their investigation.

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