



The Insolvency
Service

Information Rights Team
The Insolvency Service
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www.gov.uk/insolvency-service

Our ref: FOI24/25-054
Date: 23rd August 2024

Dear [REDACTED]

Re: Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) Request

Thank you for your emails dated 29 July 2024 at 15:14 and 15:15 which were combined under the reference FOI24/25-054. You requested the following from the Insolvency Service (the agency):

Part 1 of the request:

"Please can I request some information regarding special admins under the Freedom of Information Act.

In particular:

1. *Details of when each special administration regime was passed, when any were ended, and how many special administrations have occurred under each regime.*
2. *Details of all special administrations that have occurred, in tabular format with the following columns:*
 - o *The name of the company entering administration*
 - o *The date at which it entered administration*
 - o *The date at which the administration ended*
 - o *The regime under which it entered special administration*
 - o *The administrator appointed*
 - o *The insolvency firm of the administrator*
 - o *Total administration fees for the administration*

I've attached an Excel that can be used to structure this data if helpful.

Please let me know if any clarification is needed, or where this can be found if publicly available."

Part 2 of the request:

"Please can I request some information regarding liquidations and administrations under the Freedom of Information Act.

In particular a small table for each of the following:

1. *Creditor's Voluntary Liquidations - count and average fees*
 - o *By size of company*
2. *Members Voluntary Liquidations - count and average fees*
 - o *By size of company*
3. *Compulsory Liquidations - count and average fees*
 - o *By size of company*

4. All Administrations - count and average fees
 - o By size of company
5. Pre-Pack Administrations - count and average fees
 - o By size of company
6. Company Voluntary Arrangement - count and average fees
 - o By size of company

I've attached an Excel that can be used to structure this data if helpful.

Please let me know if any clarification is needed, or where this can be found if publicly available."

Your request has been dealt with under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

I can confirm the agency holds some of the information that you have requested and I have provided answers to your questions below where it is held.

Part 1 of the request:

"Please can I request some information regarding special admins under the Freedom of Information Act.

In particular:

1. **Details of when each special administration regime was passed, when any were ended, and how many special administrations have occurred under each regime.**
2. **Details of all special administrations that have occurred, in tabular format with the following columns:**
 - o **The name of the company entering administration**
 - o **The date at which it entered administration**
 - o **The date at which the administration ended**
 - o **The regime under which it entered special administration**
 - o **The administrator appointed**
 - o **The insolvency firm of the administrator**
 - o **Total administration fees for the administration**

I've attached an Excel that can be used to structure this data if helpful.

Please let me know if any clarification is needed, or where this can be found if publicly available."

No information held; the agency receives records from Companies House and these do not state whether an administration is a "special administration".

Please note FOIA only applies to recorded information, it does not require public authorities to create information in order to answer a question.

Part 2 of the request:

"Please can I request some information regarding liquidations and administrations under the Freedom of Information Act.

1. Creditor's Voluntary Liquidations - count and average fees

The agency does hold some data from data collection exercises (which would be publicly available from companies house filings)

- Data collection for CIGA impact assessment in 2020 – covers fees for a sample of administrations and CVLs
- Data collection for CIGA post-implementation review in 2022 – covers fees for a sample of administrations and CVLs

2016 CVL cases

- Random sample of 232 CVL cases that started in 2016
- 169 CVL cases had been completed at point of data collection – collection undertaken Q4 2019/20
- Number of completed cases which had Post-appointment remuneration data = 169
- Post-appointment remuneration from 169 CVL cases = £1,025,661
- Average Post-appointment remuneration per completed case = £6,069

2017 CVL cases

- Random sample of 2,900 CVL cases that started in 2017
- 2,717 CVL cases had been completed at point of data collection – collection undertaken Q3 & Q4 2023/24
- Number of completed cases which had Post-appointment remuneration data = 2,717
- Post-appointment remuneration from 2,717 CVL cases = £16,696,758
- Average Post-appointment remuneration per completed case = £6,145

2020-2022 CVL cases

- Random sample of 400 CVL cases that started after 26th June 2020 and had been completed by end of August 2022
- All 400 cases had been completed at point of data collection – collection undertaken Q2 & Q3 2022/23
- Number of completed cases which had Post-appointment remuneration data = 399
- Post-appointment remuneration from 399 CVL cases = £1,093,523
- Average Post-appointment remuneration per completed case = £2,741

CVL research – this is to be published imminently (September/October). The report will provide median figures on pre-appointment and post-appointment IP fees. As such, section 22 of FOIA is engaged in respect of this information.

Section 22(1) states that information is exempt information if:

- (a) The information is held by the public authority with a view to its publication, by the authority or any other person, at some future date (whether determined or not),
- (b) The information was already held with a view to such publication at the time when the request for information was made, and
- (c) It is reasonable in all the circumstances that the information should be withheld from disclosure until the date referred to in paragraph (a)

In applying this exemption, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information. This is because the information you are requesting is not yet ready for publication as the agency is still collating the data.

o By size of company

No information held; the agency does not hold information relating to the size of companies.

2. Members Voluntary Liquidations - count and average fees

o By size of company

No information held; the agency does not hold information on Members Voluntary Liquidations this information is available in Companies House Official Statistics or information relating to the size of companies.

3. Compulsory Liquidations - count and average fees

I can confirm the agency holds the information that you have requested. The information on our Official Statistics has been published at the following website link [here](#).

Because this information is reasonably accessible to you the agency is not obliged to provide you with a separate copy of the information pursuant to the exemption at section 21 of FOIA.

o By size of company

No information held; the agency does not hold information relating to the size of companies.

4. All Administrations - count and average fees

2016 Administration cases

- Random sample of 500 cases that started in 2016
- 469 cases had been completed at point of data collection – collection undertaken Q4 2019/20
- Number of completed cases which had Post-appointment remuneration data = 468
- Post-appointment remuneration from 468 CVL cases = £32,516,518
- Average post-appointment remuneration per completed case = £69,480

2020-2022 Administration cases

- Random sample of 262 administration cases that started after 26th June 2020 and had been completed by end of August 2022
- All 262 cases had been completed at point of data collection - collection undertaken Q2 & Q3 2022/23
- Number of completed cases which had Post-appointment remuneration data = 242
- Post-appointment remuneration from 242 administration cases = £10,545,472
- Average Post-appointment remuneration per completed case = £43,576

o By size of company

No information held; the agency does not hold information relating to the size of companies.

5. Pre-Pack Administrations - count and average fees

I can confirm the agency holds the information that you have requested. The information on pre-pack administrations has been published at the following website link [here](#).

Because this information is reasonably accessible to you the agency is not obliged to provide you with a separate copy of the information pursuant to the exemption at section 21 of FOIA.

o By size of company

No information held; the agency does not hold information relating to the size of companies.

6. Company Voluntary Arrangement - count and average fees

o By size of company

No information held; CVA research was conducted in 2021 but this didn't collect data on IP fees. The agency does not hold information relating to the size of companies.

Please note FOIA only applies to recorded information, it does not require public authorities to create information in order to answer a question.

General notes:

- These data collections refer to sample data. Data on the population of cases the samples refer to can be found in the official statistics; [Company Insolvency Statistics Releases - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

- Data manually collected from reviewing Companies house filings; Find and update company information - GOV.UK (company-information.service.gov.uk) and therefore vulnerable to human error.
- Consideration should be given around the time period between a case starting and the point of data collection, i.e. a shorter time period may only reflect shorter cases. Sample data should only be generalised to the target population from which it was taken.
- Post-appointment remuneration is the amount actually paid to the Insolvency Practitioner post-appointment, not the fees they charged on a case.

Complaints

If you are not satisfied with the response we have provided to you and would like us to reconsider our decision by way of an internal review (IR), please contact our Information Rights team within 40 working days of this letter at foi@insolvency.gov.uk or by post at:

Information Rights Team
The Insolvency Service
3rd Floor
Cannon House
18 Priory Queensway
Birmingham
B4 6FD
United Kingdom

You also have the right to contact the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) if you wish for them to investigate any complaint you may have regarding our handling of your request. However, please note that the ICO is likely to expect an IR to have been completed in the first instance.

Yours sincerely

Information Rights Team
The Insolvency Service

The Department for Business and Trade, Official Receivers and the Adjudicator are Data Controllers in respect of personal data processed by the Insolvency Service. For the details about how personal data is processed by the agency, please see the full Insolvency Service Personal Information Charter here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/insolvency-service/about/personal-information-charter>