



The Insolvency
Service

Information Rights Team

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www.gov.uk/insolvency-service

Our ref: FOI25/26-037
Date: 23 June 2025

Dear [REDACTED]

Re: Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) Request

Thank you for your email of 2 June 2025 in which you requested from the Insolvency Service (the agency):

“What specific targets were set for the Insolvency Service by the Department For Business Energy and Industry Strategy (BEIS) and the subsequent departments with responsibility (the Dept for Business and Trade /Dept for Energy Security and Net Zero) to tackle COVID fraud?

Please provide full breakdown (by year): the specific amount the insolvency service were funded by and the targets set for that funding.

*FY 2020/21
FY 2021/22
FY 2022/23
FY 2023/24
FY 2024/25
FY 2025/26”*

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

The agency does not hold the information you have requested.

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

For information, the agency has prioritised Covid-19 Support Scheme related enforcement work as part its published Annual Plan and has measured its Covid-19 Support Scheme misconduct and fraud related outcomes as a percentage of all its disqualification and criminal outcomes. The agency’s published Annual Plan measures are agreed by its parent department – the Department for Business and Trade.

The percentages achieved in the following periods are:

2021/2022 – 16%
2022/2023 – 48%
2023/2024 – 62%
2024/2025 – 63%

As of 15 May 2025, the Insolvency Service had obtained disqualifications against 2,167 directors, bankruptcy restrictions against 343 individuals and 62 successful criminal convictions in respect of COVID-19 financial support scheme misconduct.

The agency had also helped to secure more than £6 million in compensation related to COVID-19 financial support scheme abuse.

£11m additional funding for the Insolvency Service's Covid related enforcement work was provided under the 2021 Spending Review which was allocated for spending across the 3 financial years 2022/23, 2023/24, 2024/25. All other work has been carried out using existing agency budgets.

Complaints

If you are not satisfied with the response we have provided 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
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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>