



Response to Request for Information

Reference FOI 121417
Date 5 January 2015

Translation

Request:

1. *How much money has your council spent on translating documents, web pages and leaflets in 2011-12, 2012-13 and 2013-14?"*
 2013/14 = £1,713.27

- "2. *How much money has your council spent on interpreters in 2011-12, 2012-13 and 2013-14?"*
 2013/14 = £112,424.00

- "3. *If possible please state which languages your council translates most commonly?"*
 Romanian, Slovak, Polish, Punjabi and Hindi

With reference to the years 2011/12 and 2012/13, I can confirm that the Council holds information falling within the description specified in your request. However, Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 allows a public authority to refuse a request if the cost of providing the information to the applicant would exceed the 'appropriate limit' as defined by the Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2004 as we are unable to isolate the spend on translation and interpreters in the accounts as the information is not held centrally for those years

The Regulations provide that the appropriate limit to be applied to requests received by local authorities is £450 (equivalent to 2.5 days of work). In estimating the cost of complying with a request for information, an authority can only take into account any reasonable costs incurred in:

- "(a) determining whether it holds the information,*
- (b) locating the information, or a document which may contain the information,*
- (c) retrieving the information, or a document which may contain the information,*
and
- (d) extracting the information from a document containing it".*

[NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED]

For the purposes of the estimate the costs of performing these activities should be estimated at a rate of £25 per hour.

As such I believe that the aggregated time that it would take to collate the information would be in excess of 18 hours (equivalent to a notional cost of £450).