Dear Freedom of Information: Right to know request

Thank you for your request made under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (the Act) which was received by the Financial Services Authority (now succeeded by the Financial Conduct Authority ('FCA')) for the following information.

1. What is the actual, annual costs for the maintenance / upkeep of the FSA Register? By this, I am seeking information on the Information Technology budget set aside in this regard e.g. on a yearly basis, how much does it cost the FSA to run the Register (before fees obviously offset this cost)? An indication of these costs per annum since 2008 would be great.

2. What is the number of FSA staff solely deployed on the maintenance / upkeep of the Register? Again, confirmation of these numbers since 2008 would be appreciated.

3. What are the actual, annual costs in relation to FSA staff / resource required to maintain the Register? As previous, an indication of these costs over the last 5 years would be useful.'

Your request has now been considered. I can confirm that we hold some of the information you have requested. Please note, 'maintenance / upkeep' has been interpreted as the software, hardware, development and people costs associated with system delivery.

In response to point 1, we do not hold the information you are seeking in respect of periods prior to April 2012. This is because the FSA paid an overall fee for the delivery of its systems as it did not have a business requirement to hold or identify the information in the exact form or at the level of detail you have requested. Therefore, the cost of the FSA’s Register cannot be extracted from the overall cost paid for by the FSA for its systems delivery. However, the cost for April 2012 to February 2013 was £729,539.29. This figure included the cost of the then FSA’s Register and the new Register for the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) as well as all other administration cost related to these systems.

In regard to point 2, since 2008 the FSA had 0.5 of a full time person solely deployed on the maintenance/ upkeep of the FSA’s Register.

In relation to point 3 of your request, we are not able to disclose this information to you as we consider that section 40 (Personal Data) of the Freedom of Information Act applies to all of the information that we hold. This is because this information constitutes the personal data of individuals other than yourself - in that it would involve disclosure of salary related information, and to disclose that information would breach the Principles in the Data Protection Act 1998.

- Section 40 (Personal Information)

To the extent that the information that we hold contains personal data about an individual, section 40 (2)(b) of the Act provides that "Any information to which a request for information relates is also exempt information if ... either the first or second condition below (see sections 40(3) and 40(4) of the Act) is satisfied".

We have applied this exemption because the first condition (as stated in section 40(3) of the Act) is satisfied as some of the information requested comprises the personal data of individuals other
than yourself, which if disclosed would breach the Principles in the Data Protection Act 1998. It would be a breach of Principle 1 to disclose such information, as it would not be lawful or fair to the individuals concerned. The individuals concerned have not given their consent for this personal detail to be made public and the release of such information may be detrimental to the individuals themselves.

If you are unhappy with the decision made in relation to your request you have the right to request an internal review. If you wish to exercise this right you should contact us within three months of the date of this letter.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you also have a right of appeal to the Information Commissioner at:

Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF

Telephone: 01625 545 700
Website: www.ico.gov.uk

Yours sincerely

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