

Mr I D Alexander

020 7270 5000  
foirequests@hmtreasury.gov.uk  
www.gov.uk/hm-treasury

11 March 2019

Ref: FOI2019/02301

Dear Mr Alexander

## Freedom of Information Act 2000: Settlement Agreements

Thank you for your enquiry of 14 February 2019, which we have considered under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (the FOI Act).

You asked for the following information:

*"I would like to re-submit my FOI request with a narrower scope. Please advise:*

*What data is held centrally by the Treasury on settlement agreements and special severance payments that are approved by the Treasury for public sector organisations?*

*i. Please give details of all data parameters that are tracked by the Treasury, and indicate for how long they have been tracked.*

*ii. Please advise whether the Treasury keeps a central record of any confidentiality (non-disclosure) and non-disparagement clauses that feature in the settlement agreements that it approves."*

HM Treasury is required to approve settlement agreements and special severance payments which are outside the relevant Department's delegated authorities. It is the individual Department's responsibility to maintain a reasonable record of the case.

It is not HM Treasury policy to retain records of approved or rejected settlement agreements and special severance payments. It is not HM Treasury policy to track data parameters relating to settlement agreements and special severance payments or to keep a central record of any confidentiality and non-disparagement clauses.

The Government Financial Reporting Manual requires public bodies within its scope to provide a statement of losses and special payments in their Annual Report and Accounts where the total amounts incurred are over the limits proscribed in Managing Public Money. This includes special severance payments, for which the total amount paid out, and the maximum, minimum and median values of payments made are recorded.

If you have any queries about this letter, please contact us. Please quote the reference number above in any future communications.

Yours sincerely



K Cunningham  
Information Rights Unit

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Email: [foirequests@hmtreasury.gov.uk](mailto:foirequests@hmtreasury.gov.uk)

It would assist our review if you set out which aspects of the reply concern you and why you are dissatisfied.

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