

Mr Martin Rosenbaum
BBC Radio
Email address: martin.rosenbaum@bbc.co.uk

Our ref: FOI/51870/SB

26 January 2007

Dear Mr Rosenbaum,

Freedom of Information Request

I am writing further to my letter of 22 December in response to your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. You asked to be supplied with the following information concerning raw data that was used to compile Table 5 of the *"Independent Review of the impact of the Freedom of Information Act"*. I apologise for the Department's delay in replying to your request.

I can confirm that we hold the data and I am pleased to provide you with the following information in answer to your request:

1. **The dates of the week, which was used for the sample.**
Week commencing Monday 30th January.
2. **A document containing an explanation or justification for the choice of that particular week.**
Timing chosen by reference to when monitored bodies were having to submit their quarterly returns.
3. **The total number of FOI requests from identified journalists in that particular week.**
There were 51 initial requests received during the sample week that could be positively identified as being from journalists. These identifications have been made by the DCA. Frontier Economics were given the raw data and made their own assessments and identifications. The actual total number of requests from journalists may well be more than this, as requesters are under no obligation to give any information about themselves or their profession when making a request.



4. The number of requests submitted by the following media organisations in that particular week:

- a) *Guardian* - 11
- b) *Evening Standard* - 5
- c) *Mail on Sunday* - 1
- d) *Sunday Times* – 1
- e) *All other identified media outlets and journalists except the BBC* – 10

The modelling of the estimates produced in the table was based on a combination of the one week sample and evidence collated by Frontier Economics through interviews and assessments of departmental databases. These identifications have been made by the DCA. Frontier Economics were given the raw data and made their own assessments and identifications.

5. The lower and upper bounds for a 95% confidence interval around the average cost of a serial requester, as referred to in footnote 19 on page 30 of this report.

This information is contained by reference to Table 5 of the Frontier Economics report and within footnote 19.

I hope this information answers your request satisfactorily, but if you have any queries about this letter, please contact me and please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

If, however, you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request and wish to request an internal review of our decision, you should write to:

Access Rights Unit
Department for Constitutional Affairs
5th Floor
30 Millbank
London
SW1P 4XB

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. Generally, the Commissioner cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the complaints procedure provided by the DCA. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: The Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF.

Yours sincerely,

Sandra Briggs
Access Rights Unit