Robert MacLean WhatDoTheyKnow By email request-780-f75859fe@whatdotheyknow.com

Date Our reference 8 July 2008 20-06-2008-134558-002

Dear Robert Maclean

Request for Information

I confirm that we have now completed the search for the information which you requested on 20 June 2008.

You made two specific requests:

"Please detail total expenditure by the Learning and Skills Council on Common Purpose courses for each of the following years: 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007 and 2008 to date."

and

"Please also supply a copy of the invoice for each Common Purpose course paid for by this organisation."

Firstly, I should advise that the Learning and Skills Council (LSC) came into being on the 1 April 2001.

In response to your request concerning expenditure please see table showing LSC spend by financial year with Common Purpose.

Financial year (1 April to 31 March)	Amount '£'
2001 - 2002	195,150.75
2002 - 2003	123,285.50
2003 - 2004	131,794.25
2004 - 2005	82,568.50

Learning and Skills Council

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2005 - 2006	57,766.50
2006 - 2007	44,741.91
2007 - 2008	82,080.88
2008 to date	48,580

In response to your request for a copy of the invoice for each 'Common Purpose Course' paid for by the LSC, the LSC considers it will hold this information. I can also advise that the LSC has estimated the cost of seeking to identify and locate this information. It is estimated that the cost of searching will significantly exceed the appropriate cost limit (£450) as laid down under the Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2004.

In accordance with section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, the LSC is therefore not under an obligation to comply with this request and has decided not to comply with this part of your request.

If you are dissatisfied with the LSC's handling of this request, you can complain. The LSC maintains a complaint procedure in accordance with section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. Details of the procedure are maintained on the LSC website at:

http://www.lsc.gov.uk/ComplaintsProcedure.htm

If you complain to the LSC and remain dissatisfied with the outcome, you can complain to the Information Commissioner. Details of the Commissioner's complaint procedure are maintained on his website at:

http://www.ico.gov.uk/complaints/freedom_of_information.aspx

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

Yours sincerely

FOI Compliance Manager freedomofinformation@lsc.gov.uk