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Mark Tovey
By email:

Our ref: FOI2020/12581
12 June 2020

Dear Mark Tovey,

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION: Working from Home Expenses

Thank you for your request for information of 18 May 2020 about work from home expenses during the Covid-19 lockdown. We have handled your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

Please see below for each of your questions and our responses.

1) *Please tell me how much was spent by your department on paying for the provision of new items of office furniture and equipment to facilitate staff to work from home during the coronavirus lockdown.*

Expenses claims totalling £77,839 were paid to staff who had purchased work-from-home items between 17 March and 5 May 2020.

2) *Please state how much was spent on paying for the transportation of office furniture and equipment, which was not new but had already been in use, to your staff members' homes during the coronavirus lockdown.*

This information is not held. There was no policy of allowing existing office furniture to be used at home.

3) *Please provide me with the cost and the make and model of the single most expensive item of equipment or furniture that was bought for a staff member to facilitate their working from home during the coronavirus lockdown.*

£1,038.50 was spent on a Yo-yo Desk Pro 2+ (adjustable desk) and chair to support a member of staff with medical conditions.

However please note that the maximum allowed value of a claim for Covid-19 standard homeworking equipment is £150.



Information disclosed in response to this FOIA request is releasable to the public. In keeping with the spirit and effect of the FOIA and the government's Transparency Agenda, this letter and the information disclosed to you may be placed on [GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk), together with any related information that will provide a key to its wider context. No information identifying you will be placed on the GOV.UK website.

We attach Annex A, explaining the copyright that applies to the information being released to you, and Annex B giving contact details should you be unhappy with the service you have received.

If you have any queries about this letter please contact me.

Yours sincerely

Jo Collinge
Information Rights Team
InformationRequests@defra.gov.uk

Annex A

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Annex B

Complaints

If you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request you may make a complaint or appeal against our decision under section 17(7) of the FOIA or under regulation 11 of the EIRs, as applicable, within 40 working days of the date of this letter. Please write to Andrew Mobsby, Head of Information Rights via email at InformationRequests@defra.gov.uk and he will arrange for an internal review of your case. Details of Defra's complaints procedure are on our website.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, section 50 of the FOIA and regulation 18 of the EIRs gives you the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) for a decision. Please note that generally the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have first exhausted Defra's own complaints procedure.

The ICO's offices are currently closed so please visit their website on how to contact them during this period, here:

<https://ico.org.uk>