



Information Policy & Compliance
bbc.co.uk/foi

30th November 2010

Freedom of Information Act 2000 – RFI20101570

Thank you for your request under the Freedom of Information Act ('the Act') of 26 November 2010, seeking:

“Could you please [inform] me if the BBC receives any sort of funding from the EU in any way shape or form. If yes, how much, what is it for and why?”

The unique reference for your request is RFI20101570 and I now respond as follows:

For the purposes of this FOI request please note:

- We understand “*funding*” to be income (the receipt of funds),

The BBC does occasionally receive some European Union funding in relation to specific educational or research and development projects. Examples of projects which have benefited from European Union funding are:

- A project to provide assistance to learners and tutors using the BBC’s online *Skillswise* and *Webwise* sites, which provide literacy, numeracy and IT skills resources, and
- A project to develop technology to enable the digitisation and preservation of the BBC archive.

The figures overleaf are total annual funding figures for a number of specific projects; each project will have its own specific terms and conditions on which funding is made available.

The BBC has received the following funding from the European Union since 01 April 2004: Financial Year	Amount £000's
2004/05	135
2005/06	141
2006/07	241
2007/08	355
2008/09	1,144
2009/10	582

The figures listed above have been reported in a previous Freedom of Information request, RFI20100620 dated 01 June 2010, which is very similar to your request.

However we estimate that to split this information down to the level that would meet with your request would take more than two and a half days because it would involve contacting every division which has received funding who would then need to confirm if they held the papers which would allow them to confirm the nature of the funding; under section 12 of the Act, we are allowed to refuse to handle the request if it would exceed the appropriate limit. The appropriate limit has been set by the Regulations (SI 2004/3244) as being £450 (equivalent to two and a half days work, at an hourly rate of £25).

We are mindful of our duty (under section 16 of the Act) to provide reasonable advice and assistance to you, and specifically to advise how you might narrow your request so that it complies with the time limit. If you would like to submit a narrowed request, we would be happy to consider it. For example you may consider narrowing your request to funding to a value of more than £50K, received by the BBC during a six-month period (please specify the six-month period for which you wish us to search for information).

Appeal Rights

If you are not satisfied with this response you have the right to an internal review by a BBC senior manager or legal adviser. Please contact us at the address above, explaining what you would like us to review and including your reference number.

If you are not satisfied with the internal review, you can appeal to the Information Commissioner. The contact details are: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF, telephone 01625 545 700 or see <http://www.ico.gov.uk/>

Yours sincerely,

Nigel Etienne
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