

Steve Webb
stevenjohnwebb65@gmail.com

data.access@justice.gsi.gov.uk

31 March 2017

Dear Mr Webb

Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Request – 110915

Thank you for your request dated 17 March 2017 in which asked for the following information from the Ministry of Justice (MoJ):

a) What is the average cost to the Government of processing a probate application in the latest year for which figures are available;

b) If available, what is the average cost of processing for an estate of:

- £500,000 to £1m

- £1m to £1.6m

- £1.6m to £2m

- over £2m;

Your request has been handled under the FOIA.

The MoJ does not hold any information in the scope of your request. This is because there is no legal or business requirement for MoJ to do so.

The FOIA does not oblige a public authority to create information to answer a request if the requested information is not held. The duty is to only provide the recorded information held.

Appeal Rights

If you are not satisfied with this response you have the right to request an internal review by responding in writing to one of the addresses below within two months of the date of this response.

data.access@justice.gsi.gov.uk

Data Access and Compliance Unit, Ministry of Justice, 10.38, 102 Petty France, London, SW1H 9AJ

You do have the right to ask the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) to investigate any aspect of your complaint. However, please note that the ICO is likely to expect internal complaints procedures to have been exhausted before beginning their investigation.

Yours sincerely

**Bob Weston, Analysis and Performance Division,
HM Courts & Tribunals Service (HMCTS)**