

Information Released under Freedom of Information Act

Subject: Cost to the tax payer

Date Released: 30/01/2012

Summary of request:

Could you please give me an estimate of the Met Office's annual cost to the tax payer?

Information released:

The Met Office is a trading fund and provides weather and climate services under contract to a range of Government and commercial customers. For more information about the Met Office, please visit the following link at: <http://www.metoffice.gov.uk/about-us/who/management>.

In 2010-11, revenue from these services, including maintenance of the underpinning infrastructure, amounted to £196.1 million, of which £157.4 million was from Government customers. The Met Office returned a dividend of £8.2 million to the Ministry of Defence in relation to this period.

Independent research has shown Met Office services for the public alone provide excellent value for money and an exceptional return on investment, creating value to the UK economy well in excess of £600 million per year.