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08 August 2023

Dear [REDACTED]

RE: SCCL-FOI-2023/24-047

Thank you for your FOI request received by the FOI office for the following information regarding the School Fruit and Vegetable Scheme for the last financial year for which information is available:

The proportion of British fruit and vegetables in relation to imported fruit and vegetables from third countries per type of fruit and vegetables offered to children in schools. Following clarification the proportions to be calculated both by volume and value.

Your request has been handled as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and SCCL confirms that it holds this information.

Following a review of the information being requested we have estimated that the cost of meeting your full request would exceed the cost limit of £450 under Section 12 the FOI Act. The relevant Regulations which define the appropriate limit for section 12 purposes are The Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulation 2004. We are therefore unable to comply with your full request as the £450 limit is based on work being carried out at a rate of £25 per hour, which equates to 18 hours of work per request.

This is due to the volume and value being recorded on different record sheets and therefore to provide the proportion based on both volume and value would duplicate the resource required. Additionally there are multiple prices per product per supplier which impacts on the work required to specifically provide the proportion by value. The information requested on proportions based on volume for the financial year 2022-23 is readily available.

We invite you to refine your request, so that it is more likely to fall under the cost limit and will be considered again for example by specifying that the proportion is based on volume. Please note that if you simply break your request down into a series of similar smaller requests, we might still decline to answer it if the total cost exceeds £450.

We hope that this response addresses your request. However, if you are dissatisfied with this response, you may request an independent internal review of our handling of your request by submitting a complaint within two months to the postal or e-mail addresses above, quoting the reference number above. If you ask for an internal review, it would be helpful if you could say why you are dissatisfied with the response.

As part of any internal review the handling of your information request will be reassessed by a member of SCCL staff who was not involved in providing you with this response. If you remain dissatisfied after this internal review, you will have a right of complaint to the Information Commissioner as established by section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act.

If you require any further information do not hesitate to contact the FOI team.

Yours sincerely

FOI Team

Supply Chain Coordination Limited
Management Function of NHS Supply Chain