

625/2014

REQUEST

Under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 I would like to request the following information:

- 1) For each of the past five years how many people have been charged with benefit fraud by your organisation (annual break down)?
- 2) Of these how many have been successful, unsuccessful, and are ongoing?
- 3) In relation to (1) how much in total (with an annual breakdown) has been fraudulently claimed (a) according to your organisation and (b) according to the courts, i.e. convictions agreed?
- 4) In relation to (3) how much in total (with an annual breakdown) has been recovered by your organisation either through the courts or by voluntary repayments?

I am happy for you to use either financial or calendar years (as long as the answers are consistent), and to receive this information in an electronic format.

RESPONSE

The information requested is not clear in its definition so hope we have provided the correct information.

For instance, question 1 says how many people have been charged with benefit fraud? Does this mean charged as in a court of law or treated as Fraud by TDC for statistical purposes?

1)	10/11	caution 8	adpen 29	pros 32	total cases 69
	11/12	caution 40	adpen 29	pros 26	total cases 95
	12/13	caution 32	adpen 24	pros 18	total cases 74
	13/14	caution 10	adpen 16	pros 13	total cases 39
	14/15	caution 0	adpen 5	pros 7	total cases 12 so far to Nov 2014

- 2) All of the above figures were successful
In 10/11 we had 1 prosecution that was brought by TDC that was found not guilty.

In 11/12 we had 1 prosecution that was brought by TDC that was found not guilty.

We do not keep a stat of cases ongoing between years so cannot give you this figure.

- 3) How much has been fraudulently claimed overall is as follows for the total of the cases shown above

10/11 313,443.00 total figure for 69 cases (226,189.00 related to the 32 prosecutions carried out in this financial year)

11/12 293,647.00 total figure for 95 cases (179,751.00 related to the 26 prosecutions carried out in this financial year)

12/13 323,532 .00 total figure for 74 cases (143,253.00 related to the 18 prosecutions carried out in this financial year)

13/14 225,844.00 total figure for 39 cases (127,188.00 related to the 13 prosecutions carried out in this financial year)

14/15 216,199.00 total figure for 12 cases (150,218.00 related to the 7 prosecutions carried out in this financial year so far Nov 2014)

4) We do not record this information so are unable to provide this at this time.