



National Audit Office

The UK's independent public spending watchdog

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FOI REQUEST: GOVERNMENT MAJOR PROJECTS PORTFOLIO DATA

Thank you for your e-mail dated 21 September 2022 enquiring about the availability of cost data for all projects that have been delivered through the Government Major Projects Portfolio (GMPP). You requested the availability of data showing the initial contracted cost of a GMPP project versus its actual delivery cost.

The National Audit Office (NAO) is the UK's independent public spending watchdog and is independent of government. We support Parliament in holding government to account through the certification of the accounts of government departments and other public sector bodies and carrying out value for money (VFM) examinations.

Your request is being handled under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

The NAO does not hold the information you requested. We publish around 60 VFM reports a year of which only a number assess GMPP programmes. You can find more information on our work [here](#). As our reviews are conducted at different stages of the programme lifecycle, the cost information we access will reflect the project stage at the time of our review.

From what we are aware, there is no single repository of the information you are seeking although elements may be accessible from different public sources. In particular:

- The [government's contracts finder](#) may provide data on the original contract values awarded for GMPP projects.
- More widely, for projects on the GMPP, each quarter departments must provide the Infrastructure and Projects Authority (IPA) data about their projects including latest cost estimates. The IPA publishes some of this [project data](#) annually which includes whole-life cost estimates.
- You may find this [link](#) helpful in identifying the reported cost of a project when it first joined the GMPP and when it left. This website provides a consolidated dataset of GMPP projects from all IPA published annual reports but is yet to load data from the IPA's last annual report, which published in July 2022.

A private company has developed this dataset and the NAO has not audited the content. Although please note that projects joining and leaving the GMPP does not necessarily align with initial contracting phase and actual delivery of projects respectively for which you asked for information on.



Apologies that we could not provide you with the information requested and I trust that the publicly available information that we have pointed to is helpful.

Annex A sets out the steps you may wish to take if you are not satisfied with the way we have handled your request for information under the FOIA.

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, stylized 'C' followed by several loops and a period at the end.

Annex A - Statement of Policy

Our policy is to respond to requests made under the FOI as helpfully and promptly as possible, having regard to the principles set out in the Act. I therefore hope you are happy with the way we have handled your request. If you are not, then you should take the following steps.

In the first instance, within 40 working days, write to the National Audit Office Freedom of Information (FOI) Team at FOI@nao.org.uk or by post to:

FOI Team, Red 2, National Audit Office, 157-197 Buckingham Palace Road, London, SW1W 9SP

The Head of FOI will arrange a review, which will be conducted by a senior member of staff who was not involved in decisions relating to your original request. Once the review has been completed we will write informing you of the outcome.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF