



National Audit Office

The UK's independent public spending
watchdog

Switchboard +44 (0)207 798 7000
Direct Line +44 (0)207 798 7264
Email FOI@nao.org.uk

Reference FOI-1648
Date 23rd August 2023

REGIONAL GROWTH FUND

Thank you for your request of 2nd August 2023 to the National Audit Office (NAO) in relation to obtaining information on the Government Regional Growth Fund. Your request was considered in accordance with the terms of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

Your specific request is reproduced at **Annex A** for your reference.

Having searched our audit records and archives, I can confirm that we no longer hold any data regarding any studies carried out on this subject as it would have been destroyed in accordance with our data retention policy. The data retention policy sets out how long we retain information for and what we will do at the end of the retention period. It is currently 6 years for this type of material following its publication.

Our last study was carried out in 2014 – Progress report on the Regional Growth Fund, which can be found here [Progress report on the Regional Growth Fund - National Audit Office \(NAO\) report](#).

I am sorry we are not able to help you with your request on this occasion; **Annex B** sets out the steps you may wish to take if you are not satisfied with the way we have handled your request.

Yours sincerely

NAO FOI Team



Annex A

Request for information about 'Regional Growth Fund'

(Your request is in italics below)

"In June 2010, the Government established the £3.2 billion Regional Growth Fund to help rebalance and drive investment and economic growth across all business sectors and regions.

Please could the NAO provide the details for the projects, businesses and recipients of the fund allocation for the North West of England, on a year-by-year basis.

I'd like the response to be provided in XLSpreadsheet format and for this to include:

- the year the allocation was made*
- the accountable body that approved the initial application*
- the amount allocated to the organisation*
- the recipient of the allocation*
- a brief description of the intended purpose that was provided for the funding*
- any 'headlines' or KPI's that the applicant provided"*

Annex B

Statement of Policy

Our policy is to respond to requests made under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 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.requests@nao.org.uk or by post to:

FOI Team, Green 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 primary way of escalating your concerns to the Information Commissioner is at: www.ico.org.uk/foicomplaints. Alternatively, you can contact the ICO at [Contact us | ICO](#) or Information Commissioner's Office Wycliffe House Water Lane Wilmslow Cheshire SK9 5AF.