

Ref: FOI-457

Sent via email only: [REDACTED]

18 November 2024

Dear [REDACTED]

1. Thank you for your email of 21 October 2024 in which you requested information from UK Anti-Doping ('UKAD') under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 ('the Act'). Specifically, your request was as follows:

It is estimated in 2017 that on average it costs \$400 for testing athletes of all banned known substances. It would be useful to know on average how much it costs the UKAD to test for all known substances for one athlete.

Response

2. UKAD has interpreted this as a request for the average cost incurred by UKAD of a single test on a single Athlete for all Prohibited Substances identified on the World Anti-Doping Agency ('WADA') Prohibited List.
3. UKAD does not record the costs of testing in such a way that enables it to precisely identify the specific cost incurred for a single test on a single Athlete. However, UKAD holds data relating to the overall costs incurred for testing, such that it can confirm in the financial year 1 April 2023 to 31 March 2024, the average cost incurred by UKAD for a single test on a single Athlete was £302.44.
4. This average cost covers analysis of a single sample for all Prohibited Substances. It also includes all costs related to: (i) Sample collection equipment and documentation, (ii) remunerating Doping Control Personnel ('DCP'), (iii) courier fees, and (iv) laboratory fees, for a single test on a single Athlete.
5. Please note, not all Prohibited Substances can be detected from the same type of test. UKAD therefore undertakes three types of test, including urine, venous blood, and dried blood spot.

Conclusion

6. If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review. Internal review requests should be submitted within two months of the date of receipt of this response and should be addressed via email to foi@ukad.org.uk. Please remember to quote the reference number above in any further communications.
7. 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.

Yours sincerely



UK Anti-Doping