

Information Released under Freedom of Information Act

Subject: Late filing penalty statistics from September 2005 to November 2006

Date Released: 30 March 2007

Summary of request: Late filing penalty information from September 2005 to November 2006 including

1. the number of late filing penalties imposed
2. how many of the fines were paid
3. how many cases did the Registrar use her discretion not to collect the penalty and the reasons why.

Information released:

1. The total number of late filing penalties issued between September 2005 and November 2006 for late filing of accounts was 260,601. You will find this information and other information concerning late filing penalties on the Companies House website via the following link www.companieshouse.gov.uk then by following the links > about us>Library>Statistics and Surveys> DTI Reports> Companies in 2004/05 & 2005/06. (Please note that the figures will be for financial years)
2. During the period September 2005 to November 2006 there were 23,636 companies that disputed the late filing penalty they received and 225,483 penalties were paid.
I should explain that these figures do not necessarily correspond to the number of late filing penalties issued during the same period. For example a dispute received in September 2005 may be for a penalty received in July 2005 and a fine paid during November 2005 could be for a penalty received in August 2005.
3. During the period September 2005 to November 2006 there were 6,344 instances where the Registrar used her discretion not to collect the penalty. Again as I explained in 2 above, this does not mean that the penalty was actually received during that period. There is information about appeals and the circumstances for not collecting penalties on our website please use the following link to view this information :
www.companieshouse.gov.uk/infoAndGuide/faq/lateFilingAppeal.shtml