



EUROPEAN
COURT
OF AUDITORS

Klaus-Heiner Lehne

President of the European Court of Auditors

Mr Chris Cooper

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By e-mail

Luxembourg, 14 June 2019
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Dear Mr Cooper,

We hereby acknowledge receipt of your mail submitted via the Ask the EU platform on 26 May 2019, further to our writing of 22 May, provided as a reply to your initial request of 17 May 2019.

After careful analysis and consideration of your request, we regret to inform you that we are still unable to furnish the requested information. As explained in our previous correspondence, the European Court of Auditors (ECA) is not in possession of documents stating the “total sum of money that the EU receives from the UK per week”, nor is it within the ECA's remit to seek such information upon request by third parties. You will appreciate that this should not be perceived as a refusal on the ECA's part to grant you access to documents or as unwillingness to help you; instead, our reply is dictated by the mere fact of absence of the requested information, for which ECA cannot be held responsible.

On the contrary, we would like to reiterate that it is the responsibility of the European Commission to draw up the annual budget of the EU, which is further submitted to the approval of the European Parliament and of the Council of the European Union, while, furthermore, it is the European Commission which has the oversight of the implementation of the EU budget. In this perspective, we can only kindly remind you that you may wish considering consulting the [dedicated EU budget webpage on EUR-Lex](#) and the [European Commission's webpage on EU budget](#), which provide more detailed and up to date comprehensive information on this topic altogether; moreover, the [Budgets and Funding section of the Europa webpage dedicated to Brexit](#) might also be of interest to you.

Please note that you may bring legal action against the ECA before the General Court within two months of receiving notification of this reply to your request for reconsideration. At the same time, if you believe that the ECA may have mishandled your request, you may lodge a complaint with the European Ombudsman after having first contacted the ECA with the aim of settling the dispute. Your complaint should be forwarded in writing to the European Ombudsman within two years of the date when the facts upon which your complaint is based first came to your attention. An online complaint form is available on the [European Ombudsman's Website](#). Lodging such a complaint shall not have the effect of suspending the aforementioned time-limits.

Yours sincerely,

Klaus-Heiner Lehne

President