



17th August 2015

Our ref: FOI 2015/15308

RE: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST

Thank you for your email of 21st July requesting information on government subsidies in the energy sector.

Specifically you asked for information regarding the most recent annual figures for:-

- Direct fossil fuel subsidies
- Indirect fossil fuel subsidies
- Direct renewable subsidies
- Indirect renewable subsidies

I note that your question asks for information relating to payments by the whole of Government. The Freedom of Information Act makes provision for disclosures of information held by public authorities and therefore, in relation to your request the Department of Energy & Climate Change (DECC) has only considered that information which it holds.

The UK defines fossil fuel subsidies as government action that lowers the pre-tax price to consumers to below international market levels. The UK has no fossil fuel subsidies.

In 2014-15 the amount paid to support renewable technologies is shown in the table following. It should be noted that the Renewable Heat Incentive (RHI) scheme and support for innovation are funded through general taxation whereas the Renewables Obligation (RO) and small-scale Feed-In Tariffs (FITs) schemes are funded through electricity bills.

Direct renewable subsidies	£ (m) 2014/15 prices
Small Scale FITs	830
RO	3,130

RHI	159
Innovation and other grants	50

Appeal Procedure

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 the response to your original letter and should be addressed to:-

Information Rights Unit (DECC Shared Service)

Department for Business, Innovation & Skills

1 Victoria Street

London

SW1H 0ET

E-mail: foi.requests@bis.gsi.gov.uk

Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

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

