

Freedom of Information Request

Ref: 12/1710

Thank you for your email dated 4 December where you requested the following information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) 2000:

Please provide figures showing the energy consumption of the building housing the Department for Energy and Climate Change at 3 Whitehall Place, London for the past 12 months. Please break this down if possible into heating, lighting, gas and any other forms of energy used.

Please also disclose any documentation/literature detailing energy reduction targets/policies for the building/department for the past 12 months.

Much of the information you are looking for is available on our website at the link provided below. This information is therefore exempt under Section 21 of the FOIA, because the information is accessible to you, as it is already in the public domain.

http://www.decc.gov.uk/en/content/cms/tackling/saving_energy/what_doing/10_percent/low_carbon/low_carbon.aspx

In particular, information on the department's energy targets can be found in our Carbon Management Plan:

<http://www.decc.gov.uk/publications/basket.aspx?filetype=4&filepath=11%2ftackling-climate-change%2fsaving-energy-co2%2f5927-decc-carbon-management-plan.pdf&minwidth=true#basket>

Information on our energy performance over the last four years can be found here:

<http://www.decc.gov.uk/assets/decc/11/tackling-climate-change/saving-energy-co2/5929-decc-energy--emissions-reduction-case-studies-ju.pdf>

You may also wish to see our Real-Time Energy display, which shows up-to-date energy use information for our 3 Whitehall Place, as well as our other London building (55 Whitehall). The real-time display can be found on our homepage:

<http://www.decc.gov.uk/>

The electricity consumption in 3 Whitehall Place in 2011/12 was 1,233,297kWh, and the gas consumption was 192,504kWh. No other forms of energy were used. It is not possible to identify how much of the electricity was used for lighting as this is not separately metered. Similarly, it is not possible to split the gas consumption into heating and hot water provision, as the same boilers are used for both building services.

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 the DECC Information Rights Unit (foi@decc.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.