

Department of Energy & Climate Change
55 Whitehall
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Tel:
email:
www.decc.gov.uk

Ref no: 12/1402

2 November 2012

Thank you for your email of 5 October 2012 where you requested the following information:

- *Are there personnel working for the department or related agencies who are seconded from outside organisations?*
- *If the answer is yes how many are there?*
- *From which organisations or companies do they come from, please name them and give the number of people seconded from each organisation or company and whether they are paid by the department or by their original employer.*
- *If there are people working for the department who are on secondment and paid by their employer how much in total was this worth to the department for the last 3 tax years.*

If this request is unclear please contact me.

Freedom of Information Act 2000

Your request has been handled under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 ('the Act'). Under the Act you have the right to:

- know whether we hold the information you have requested and;
- be provided with that information (subject to any exemptions under the Act which may apply).

There are people working in the Department of Energy & Climate Change (DECC) who are on secondment from outside organisations although it does not have responsibility for any agencies. If you require this information for the Department's Non Departmental Public Bodies, you may wish to contact the following organisations for further details:

- The Coal Authority - thecoalauthority@coal.gov.uk
- Committee on Climate Change - enquiries@theccc.gsi.gov.uk
- Civil Nuclear Police Authority - info@cnpa.pnn.police.uk
- Nuclear Decommissioning Authority - enquiries@nda.gov.uk

We can neither confirm nor deny that DECC holds any information relating to secondments from the security bodies listed in section 23(3), as the duty to comply with section 1(1)(a) of the Act does not apply by virtue of section 23(5). Section 23(5) is an absolute exemption and no public interest consideration is required.

There are currently 23 people working in DECC who are on secondment from outside organisations. None of the people who are working in DECC and who are on secondment from other organisations are being paid by DECC. The table at Annex A shows the organisations from which they are seconded and if their salary costs are being reimbursed by DECC or met by their home organisation. We are unable to provide the exact number of people seconded from each organisation as this information is exempt under section 40 (personal information) of the Act, as it constitutes third party data. Section 40(2) provides that personal data about third parties is exempt information if one of the conditions set out in section 40(3) is satisfied. Under the Act disclosure of this information would breach the fair processing principle contained in the Data Protection Act (DPA), where it would be unfair to that person or is confidential.

From our preliminary assessment, it is clear that we will not be able to answer the final point in your request without further clarification.

DECC requires further information in order to identify and locate the information you have asked for. In particular, it would be useful to know exactly what you mean by “...*how much in total was this worth to the department for the last 3 tax years.*”

Once you have clarified your request, I will be able to begin to process your request. If I do not receive clarification within three months your request will be considered to have lapsed. (Under section 1(3) of the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), a public authority need not comply with a request unless any further information reasonably required to locate the information is supplied). Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

If you are unhappy with the result of your request for information, you may request an internal review within two calendar months of the date of this email. If you wish to request an internal review, please contact me.

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 Commissioners Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire SK9 5AF

Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can be of further assistance.

People on secondment into DECC

Home Organisation	Numbers of secondments to DECC from outside organisations	Number whose salary costs are reimbursed by DECC	Number whose salary costs are met by their home organisation
Barclays	Less than 5 for each of the organisations listed	Less than 5 for each of the organisations listed	
Carbon War Room			
Centrica Energy			
CES			
ConocoPhillips (UK) Ltd		Less than 5 for each of the organisations listed	
Durham University			
Energypeople Ltd			
Environment Agency			
ESB		Less than 5 for each of the organisations listed	
Jacobs Engineering UK			
McGrigors LLP			
Met Office			
Mount Wellington Mine Ltd		Less than 5 for each of the organisations listed	
National Grid			
National Nuclear Laboratory			
Nuclear Decommissioning Authority			
OFGEM		Less than 5 for each of the organisations listed	
Pcubed			
Rolls Royce			
RWE			
Shell		Less than 5 for each of the organisations listed	
University College London			
Totals		23	14