

15<sup>th</sup> August 2012

**RE: Freedom of Information request – 12/1087**

Thank you for your correspondence of 22 July 2012. You have requested the following information:

*Under the Freedom of Information Act I would like to be provided with the following information broken down by year for the years 2006-2012 inclusive:*

- *Total number of staff employed each year*
- *Total staff recruited each year*
- *Total amount paid to external recruitment agencies and/or consultants each year (for recruitment of both permanent and temporary staff).*
- *Total number of staff recruited via recruitment agencies/consultants each year.*
- *Amount spent on executive recruitment agencies per role for management and senior positions (permanent and temporary). Please specify length of contract if temporary or fixed term. Please include amount paid and job title.*

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).

The Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC) was created in October 2008, to bring together energy policy (previously with BERR, which is now BIS - the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills), and climate change mitigation policy (previously with Defra - the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs). Therefore we do not hold any information prior to this date.

Detailed below is the response to your individual questions. Please note that for the purposes of this response "staff" relates solely to Civil Servants.

- a) Information on the number of staff employed by DECC is not being provided as it is exempt under section 21 of the Freedom of Information Act. The Average Number

of Persons Employed within the Department is available on the DECC website via the Annual Report and Accounts for each of the relevant years. These are available by following the hyperlink below.

[http://www.decc.gov.uk/en/content/cms/about/our\\_goals/annual\\_reports/annual\\_reports.aspx](http://www.decc.gov.uk/en/content/cms/about/our_goals/annual_reports/annual_reports.aspx)

- b) The total number of permanent civil servants joining the department either from other Government Departments or externally from the Civil Service, to replace staff that have left or fill new roles, in each year is shown in the table below.

Year	Number of New Starters
October 2008 – March 2009	18
April 2009 – March 2010	198
April 2010 – March 2011	213
April 2011 – March 2012	269

- c) The table below sets out the total amount paid to external recruitment agencies/consultants each year for the recruitment of both permanent and temporary staff. Please note that these costs relate to recruitment and not the engagement of temporary workers.

Year	Cost
2008-2009	£41,578.12
2009-2010	£38,058.67
2010-2011	£22,950.03
2011-2012	£38,992.36

- d) Total number of staff recruited via recruitment agencies/consultants each year.

Prior to November 2010, recruitment was managed by two separate shared service providers on DECC's behalf. Therefore, DECC does not hold centrally the specific information you have requested and we estimate that providing the details that you have requested would exceed the cost limit of £600 provided under Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act. This represents the estimated cost of spending 3.5 working days: (i) determining whether the department holds the information, and (ii) locating, retrieving and extracting the information. The Act provides that we are not obliged to comply with requests where the estimated cost of complying would exceed this limit. To obtain this information would involve contacting all line managers within the department. This exercise is estimated to take longer than the 3.5 working day limit. However, we do hold the following information in relation to the number of external campaigns run and the number of posts advertised.

Year	Number of Campaigns Run Externally	Number of Posts Advertised
Nov 2010- March 2011	5	9
April 2011 – March 2012	39	91

- e) Amount spent on executive recruitment agencies per role of management and senior positions (permanent and temporary). Please specify length of contract if temporary or fixed term. Please include amount paid and job title.

Prior to June 2012, SCS recruitment was managed by the Department of Business, Innovation and Skills on DECC's behalf. DECC does not hold centrally, the specific information you have requested in respect of management and senior positions and we estimate that providing details you have requested would exceed the cost limit of £600 provided under Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act. This represents the estimated cost of spending 3.5 working days: (i) determining whether the department holds the information, and (ii) locating, retrieving and extracting the information. The Act provides that we are not obliged to comply with requests where the estimated cost of complying would exceed this limit. To obtain this information would involve contacting all line managers within the department. This exercise is estimated to take longer than the 3.5 working day limit. However, you may wish to refine your request by narrowing its scope by being more specific about what information you particularly wish to obtain. For example, you may be interested in a specific role. We would be happy to consider whether any revised request could be dealt with within the cost limit.

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 us.

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.