



Department
of Energy &
Climate Change

**Department of Energy & Climate
Change**

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September 2015

RE: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST

Thank you for your email of 26th August requesting information on the Department of Energy and Climate Change's (DECC) use of the Cabinet Office run shared services centre – ISSC2.

Specifically you asked:-

- on what date the Department fully migrated over to the Cabinet Office-run shared services centre - ISSC2?
- If it has not yet migrated over, what date does it expect to do so?;
- how much money in ERP licensing costs has it has far saved from the move? and;
- how much does DECC expect to save?

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 ('the Act'), you have the right to:

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

In response to your questions:

The date on which DECC fully migrated over to shared services centre ISSC2 was November 2013.

The remainder of the information is exempt under section 43(2) of the Act and is therefore withheld.

Section 43(2) of the Act states that “information is exempt information if its disclosure under this Act would, or would be likely to, prejudice the commercial interests of any person (including the public authority holding it)”. Section 43(2) is a qualified exemption and therefore the balance of the public interest in disclosing and withholding the information must be considered.

While the release of information relating to savings in ERP licensing costs would provide greater transparency in Government processes and make government more accountable, we judge that it would, or would be likely to, prejudice the commercial interests of the Cabinet Office by damaging the confidence that customers, suppliers or investors have in them, threatening their ability to obtain supplies or secure finance and, in some cases, weakening their position in a competitive environment by revealing market-sensitive information or information of potential usefulness to its competitors.

There is significant public interest in DECC and other Government Departments receiving commercially sensitive information from companies, which allows Government to fulfil its functions more effectively. Disclosure of such commercially sensitive information would limit the amount of information of this nature that Government receives in future, limiting the effectiveness of Government activity, which is not in the public interest.

Having considered the public interest, on balance, we consider that the public interest in disclosing information on the amount of money in ERP licensing costs this department has so far saved from the move and how much it expects to save, is outweighed by the public interest considerations in favour of withholding the information.

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 request 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.