

Department of Energy & Climate Change
3 Whitehall Place,
London SW1A 2AW

E: foi@decc.gsi.gov.uk
www.decc.gov.uk

Our ref: **13/0058**

4 February 2013

Re: Request for Information

Thank you for your email correspondence received by the Department of Energy & Climate Change (DECC) on 11 January 2012, in which you requested the following information:

Please provide copies of all correspondence, or records of oral conversations, held by the Department in relation to the latest decadal forecast released by the Met Office on Christmas Eve. Please restrict this request to the period from the beginning of June 2012 to the end of December 2012.

We have considered your request in accordance with the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 (EIRs), as the information you have sought disclosure of does, in our view, fall within the definition of "environmental information" as stated in the EIRs.

DECC has the following obligations under the EIRs:

- to confirm whether the Department holds the information requested, and
- to provide that information (subject to any exceptions which may apply).

A search was undertaken to identify any relevant correspondence or records of oral conversations. The search identified the Quarterly Highlights Report, July – September 2012 for the DECC and Defra co-funded Met Office Hadley Centre (MOHC) Climate Programme; this report included two sentences about the (then) forthcoming decadal forecast. The report was received by DECC by email on 26 October 2012.

Quarterly Highlights Report (July – September 2012), MOHC Climate Programme – References to the 2012 Decadal Forecast:

Page 3: Selected highlights from the Underpinning Science Programme

Implementing the new HadGEM3 model into decadal predictions is very near. This new model shows improved global climate prediction skill over its predecessor and will be used to make real time forecasts starting in late 2012.

Page 13: Annex 6. Details from each scientific area

Development and Capability Building Highlights:

The new MOHC climate model HadGEM3 shows improved global climate prediction skill over its predecessor and will be used to make real time decadal forecasts starting in late 2012.

Appeal Procedure

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review. Under Regulation 11(2) of the EIRs a request for an internal review should be submitted no later than 40 working days after the date of this letter and should be addressed to the **Information Rights Unit (DECC Shared Service)** (foi@decc.gsi.gov.uk), Department for Business, Innovation & Skills, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET.

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

If you do request an internal review and are not content with its outcome, 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

**Climate Science Observation and International Team
Science and Innovation Group**

