

Telephone 08459 33 55 77
Website www.defra.gov.uk

Our ref RFI 5838
Date October 2013

Dear,

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION: SENIOR STAFF AND PENSIONS

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request which we received on 22 September 2013, in which you asked for the following information:

- 1) *"A list of names of the 10 highest earning employees within the department and details of their salary, job title and pension entitlements for each.*
- 2) *Please provide details of age, size of pension pot to date, annual contribution from employer in amount and % of salary, details of whether it is a money purchase of defined benefit scheme, predicted retirement income,*
- 3) *Please provide any other summary details relating to their pensions"*

As you know, we have handled your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

Defra holds information relevant to your request.

Following careful consideration, we have decided not to disclose some of this information. Some of this is exempt from disclosure under Section 21(1) (Information accessible to the applicant by other means) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 as it is already reasonably accessible to you.

You can find information on Defra's highest earning employees on the Inside Government website (Links below). This includes salary details, job titles and some information on pension entitlements.

The 2012-13 Defra Annual Report and Accounts available at: -

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/224329/defra-year-end-accounts2012-13.pdf

The 2012-13 AHVLA Annual Report and Accounts available at: -
<http://www.defra.gov.uk/ahvla-en/files/pub-annual-rpt-account1213.pdf>

The 2012-13 VMD Annual Report and Accounts available at: -
<http://www.official-documents.gov.uk/document/hc1314/hc02/0262/0262.pdf>

The 2012-13 RPA Annual Report and Accounts available at: -
[http://rpa.defra.gov.uk/rpa/index.nsf/0/f7f198fb7f2d6f9f80257b9d0053ec1a/\\$FILE/RPA%20Annual%20Report%20and%20Accounts%202012-13%20v1.0.pdf](http://rpa.defra.gov.uk/rpa/index.nsf/0/f7f198fb7f2d6f9f80257b9d0053ec1a/$FILE/RPA%20Annual%20Report%20and%20Accounts%202012-13%20v1.0.pdf)

You can find further information on Civil Service Pensions at:-
<http://www.civilservice.gov.uk/pensions>

The remainder of the information requested is being withheld as it falls under the exemption(s) in section 40(2) (Personal Information) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. We believe that disclosing specific information about individual members of staff would breach the legitimate expectation of an individual's right to protection of their personal data and that disclosure would, therefore, be unfair to the individuals concerned. Section 40 is an absolute exemption and there is, therefore, no requirement to balance the public interest.

In keeping with the spirit and effect of the FOIA, all information is assumed to be releasable to the public unless exempt. The information released to you may now be published on our website together with any related information that will provide a key to its wider context.

I attach Annex A, which explains the copyright that applies to the information being released to you.

I also attach Annex B giving contact details should you be unhappy with the service you have received.

If you have any queries about this letter, please contact me.

Yours sincerely

Ann Tarran
Deputy Director
Strategy and Performance
Defra HR

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Annex A

Copyright

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Annex B

Complaints

If you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request you may make a complaint or appeal against our decision within 40 working days of the date of this letter. Please write to Mike Kaye, Head of Information Standards, Area 1B, Ergon House, Horseferry Road, London, SW1P 2AL (email: requestforinfo@defra.gsi.gov.uk) and he will arrange for an internal review of your case. Details of Defra's complaints procedure are on our [website](#).

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. Please note that generally the Information Commissioner cannot make a decision unless you have first exhausted Defra's own complaints procedure. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF