



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs

helpline@defra.gsi.gov.uk
www.gov.uk/defra

Your ref:
Our ref: RFI 6248
Date: 27 February 2014

Dear

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION: Cash Losses

Thank you for your request for information about Defra's cash losses in 2012/13, which we received on 30 January. We have considered your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

You asked for:

Details of the 278 cash losses in 2012-13 by the core department and agencies, including what each loss was and how much each was for.

In response:

The following table summarises the 278 cash losses reported in the department's Annual Report and Accounts for 2012/13.

Loss Description	Cases	Value £'000s
Bookkeeping losses: charges to clear inexplicable or erroneous debit balances	2	2
Major losses due to fluctuations in exchange rates or revaluations in currencies and write-offs	1	0
Overpayments of pay; pensions and allowances; under deductions of social security	24	18
Overpayments of Single Payment Scheme amounts to farmers, for which it is considered uneconomic to pursue. Owing to improvements in financial control, these cases have reduced substantially in number.	163	1,705
Exchange rate losses and bad debt write off	73	12
Pension and supplier overpayments.	15	20
Relates entirely to bad debts. Fera did not identify the number of cases	-	58
Total	278	1,815



I attach an annex giving contact details should you be unhappy with the service that you have received. If you have any queries about this letter please contact me.

Yours

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Annex A

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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 under section 17(7) of the FOIA or under regulation 18 of the EIRs, as applicable, within 40 working days of the date of this letter. Please write to Mike Kaye, Head of Information Standards, Area 4D, Nobel House, 17 Smith Square, London, SW1P 3JR (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, section 50 of the FOIA and regulation 18 of the EIRs gives you 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