



**Department  
of Energy &  
Climate Change**

**Information Rights**

**Department for Business, Innovation & Skills  
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London  
SW1H 0ET**

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Textphone (for those with hearing impairment)  
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**[www.gov.uk/decc](http://www.gov.uk/decc)**

DECC Ref: 13/1480

Dear,

Thank you for your e-mail of 21 October 2013 where you requested the following information:

- 1) How much food is supplied in the department's staff canteen(s) and in any food for any other purposes, e.g. in snack machines or as refreshments for meetings. Please provide a monthly breakdown of: The food supplied into the department, the average/estimated quantity supplied. And how much it costs to provide that foodstuff.?
  - 2) Please provide any guidance on what the department does to dispose of food waste.
  - 3) How much unused food does the department throw away? Please provide in a monthly breakdown of the total weight of all the thrown away food.
- If it helps keep things below cost boundaries, please restrict 'the last year' to 'since last December',

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).

I can confirm that the Department holds some of the information you have requested. This information is as follows.

- 1) We do not hold information on quantities of food supplied to the Department, but I have detailed below the monthly value of the food supplied to the Department.

Dec 12 - £11,729  
Jan 13 – £11,963  
Feb 13 – £13,084  
March 13 - £17,589  
April 13 - £11,315  
May 13 - £12,668  
June 13 - £13,814  
July 13 - £14,566  
August 13 - £6,508  
Sept 13 - £14,817

I should also note here that this Department does not contribute to the cost of food brought into the Department as this is a 'Non-Cost' contract centrally held by the Department for the Environment, Food & Rural Affairs (Defra).

2) Food waste is composted and oil is recycled. Levels of this are detailed below.

	Organic food waste (composted) (kg)	Cooking oil (recycled) (kg)
April 2012	779	28
May 2012	928	66
June 2012	988	33
July 2012	809	0
August 2012	764	38
September 2012	689	38
October 2012	839	28
November 2012	1139	19
December 2012	0	19
January 2013	959	13
February 2013	707	13
March 2013	1139	13

3) The Department does not hold figures on levels of unused or thrown away food.

### Appeals 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 letter and should be sent to the Information Rights Unit at:

Information Rights Unit (DECC Shared Service)  
Department for Business, Innovation & Skills  
1 Victoria Street  
London  
SW1H 0ET  
E-mail: [foi@decc.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:foi@decc.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

Yours sincerely

DECC