

## FOI Release

### *Information released under the Freedom of Information Act*

**Title:** External recruitment agencies used to recruit temporary or contractor staff

**Date of release:** 18 June 2013

#### **Information request**

1. A list of all external Recruitment Agencies used by your organisation to recruit temporary/contractor staff in the last year, from the date of receipt of this request.
2. The job titles and grades or pay bands of all temporary/contractor staff recruited in the last year, from the date of receipt of this request.

#### **Information released**

The following link gives information on a monthly basis of financial spend transactions made by the department including the names of the recruitment agencies used each month:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-business-innovation-skills/series/bis-spending-totals>

The two following links provide BIS management data on the number of non payroll staff such as contingent labour, consultants/consultancy. The first one covers the financial year 2012 to 2013:

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/193942/workforce-management-information-bis-2012-2013.XLS](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/193942/workforce-management-information-bis-2012-2013.XLS). The second one provides the information for the financial year 2013 to 2014:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/bis-workforce-management-april-2013-to-march-2014>

From our preliminary assessment, we estimate that complying with the request to provide information on the job titles and grades of agency staff would exceed the cost limit of £600 provided under Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act. This represents the estimated cost of spending 3.5 working days: (i) determining whether the department holds the information, and (ii) locating, retrieving and extracting the information. The Act provides that we are not obliged to comply with requests where the estimated cost of complying would exceed this limit. The Department's current recording system does not capture details of every

individual employed in BIS through third parties centrally. This information could only be obtained by reviewing each individual contract. This exercise is estimated to take longer than the 3.5 working day limit.