

FOI Release
Information released under the Freedom of Information Act

Title: Secondments to BIS

Date of release: 28 November 2013

Information request

Information regarding all personnel from external organisations who have been seconded to work at the Department from 31 May 2010, including:

1. Full name
2. Job title
3. Department they worked in
4. Organisation or body seconded from
5. Description of their area of responsibility
6. Salary
7. Dates of secondment

Information released

The list at Annex A below provides details of the information we hold in relation to companies who have seconded people to the Department for Business Innovation and Skills (BIS) and the length of each secondment, covering the period June 2007 – 31 August 2013. Each entry in the table represents one person.

The information requested at 1, 2, and 6 has been withheld in accordance with Section 40(2) of the FOI Act. Section 40(2) provides an absolute exemption for personal data which then falls to be dealt with under the Data Protection Act. Personal data of third parties can only be disclosed in accordance with the data protection principles. In particular, the first data protection principle requires that disclosure must be fair and lawful and must comply with one of the conditions in Schedule 2 of the Data Protection Act. We do not think that it is fair to release details of the payment arrangements for these individuals and do not think that any of the relevant conditions apply.

It would not be possible within the cost limits, under Section 12 of the FOI Act, to provide the data requested at items 3 and 5. Our HR systems do not record this level of detail and to retrieve the information would entail trying to track down

individuals and managers who may have left the Department some time ago to establish what their particular responsibilities were. The cost limit of £600 provided under Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act represents the estimated cost of one person spending 24 working hours (3.5 working days) determining whether the Department holds the information; and locating, retrieving and extracting the information. We are satisfied that these searches would exceed the cost threshold.

We can neither confirm nor deny that BIS holds any further information relating to secondments from the security bodies listed in section 23(3), as the duty to comply with section 1(1)(a) of the Act does not apply by virtue of section 23(5). Section 23(5) is an absolute exemption and no public interest consideration is required.

Secondments into BIS – June 2007 – 31 August 2013

Parent Organisation	Date Secondment Started	Date Secondment due to end
Credit Suisse	June 2007	February 2012
Chemical Industries Association	March 2009	February 2011
Imperial College London	April 2009	March 2012
Royal Bank of Scotland	October 2010	October 2011
Jones Lang LaSalle	January 2011	July 2011
Jones Lang LaSalle	January 2011	July 2011
OFCOM	February 2011	October 2011
Slaughter & May	March 2011	January 2012
BDO	April 2011	February 2012
PwC	May 2011	July 2011
Deloitte	June 2011	June 2012
KPMG	October 2011	At Cabinet Office
Citigroup	November 2011	November 2012
3i	November 2011	October 2012
KPMG	November 2011	November 2012
Arup	November 2011	November 2012
Herbert Smith	November 2011	November 2013
RBS	December 2011	December 2012
Balfour Beatty	December 2011	April 2013
Electoral Commission	December 2011	December 2013
QinetiQ	December 2011	March 2012
Hanson plc	January 2012	March 2012
Slaughter & May	January 2012	December 2012
BDO	January 2012	December 2012
Telefonica	January 2012	September 2013
BDO	February 2012	December 2012
OFCOM	February 2012	April 2013
Norton Rose	February 2012	August 2012
PWC	February 2012	December 2012
Asset Protect Agency	March 2012	June 2012
Navigant	March 2012	March 2013
Project Finance Sols	March 2012	March 2013
UCL	March 2012	June 2012
UCL	March 2012	June 2012
UCL	March 2012	June 2012
UCL	April 2012	June 2012
UCL	April 2012	June 2012
Asset Protect Agency	April 2012	June 2012
BBSRC	April 2012	January 2014
Lloyds TSB	May 2012	September 2012
Asset Protect Agency	June 2012	December 2012
KPMG LLP	October 2012	October 2013