



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs

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17 Smith Square
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helpline@defra.gsi.gov.uk
www.defra.gov.uk

Your ref:
Our ref: RFI 5833
Date: 17 October 2013

Dear,

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION: ILL HEALTH ABSENCE

Thank you for your request for information about ill health absence, which we received on 20 September 2013. As you know, we have handled your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

You asked:

1. "How many days on average were staff in each pay grade absent from work as a result of ill health in each of the last three financial years?"
2. "What was the total number of days lost in each pay grade as a result of ill health absence in each of the last three financial years?"

The information you requested is as follows:

Below are tables which show the average working days lost and total days lost due to ill health absence during the last three financial years. This data relates to Defra and its five Executive Agencies.

Year Ending 31 03 2011

Defra			AHVLA	
Grade	Average Working Days Lost	Total Days Lost	Average Working Days Lost	Total Days Lost
AA	17.7	600.89	26.7	3426.53
AO	8.3	2927.74	20.5	8959.92
EO	8.2	3480.07	15.5	4584.02
HEO	4.7	2948.72	9.5	1712.72
SEO	3.5	1142.93	9.9	1149.97
Grade 7	3.6	1789.94	10.4	1678.28
Grade 6	3.7	451.29	1.7	47
SCS	1.4	185.4	11	90



CEFAS			FERA	
Grade	Average Working Days Lost	Total Day Lost	Average Working Days Lost	Total Day Lost
AA	11.7	64	9.8	320
AO	9.8	929	7.9	1314
EO	6.9	847	4.6	983
HEO	5.8	656	3.4	756
SEO	4.2	435	3.8	443
Grade 7	2.2	117	2.3	184
Grade 6	0.9	17	3.2	46
SCS	0.3	1	0	0
RPA			VMD	
Grade	Average Working Days Lost	Total Days Lost	Average Working Days Lost	Total Days Lost
AA	8	8	10	36
AO	12.9	15393.5	10.2	445.17
EO	10.2	7320.5	9	256.46
HEO	6.4	2120	3.7	74.27
SEO	6.7	1031.5	5.5	82.57
Grade 7	1.4	99.5	5.8	188.45
Grade 6	4	87.5	15.6	69
SCS	0.5	3	0.5	2

Year Ending 31 03 2012

Defra			AHVLA	
Grade	Average Working Days Lost	Total Days Lost	Average Working Days Lost	Total Days Lost
AA	7.9	198.74	10.4	1936.63
AO	6.7	1944.11	8.7	6812.84
EO	4.6	1645.29	7.2	4053.37
HEO	4.4	2415.89	5.6	1752.05
SEO	3.1	925.26	3	525.78
Grade 7	2.2	929.9	5	1465.08
Grade 6	4.9	457.23	1	50
SCS	0.5	48.86	0	0
Unknown	3.1	239.69	0	0
CEFAS			FERA	
Grade	Average Working Days Lost	Total Day Lost	Average Working Days Lost	Total Day Lost
AA	28.3	13	10.9	307

AO	4.8	465	8	1314
EO	5.3	675	5.9	1154.2
HEO	3.7	420	4.5	997
SEO	2.8	300	2.9	326
Grade 7	1	52	2.2	171
Grade 6	1.9	34	24.3	342.2
SCS	0	0	0	0
Unknown	0	0	4.5	38
RPA			VMD	
Grade	Average Working Days Lost	Total Days Lost	Average Working Days Lost	Total Days Lost
AA	9	9	11.9	42.78
AO	11.3	12264	10.6	439.28
EO	8.5	5711.5	8.9	251.38
HEO	5.2	1616	8.3	182.92
SEO	5.8	847	2.6	35.23
Grade 7	2.8	202	4.6	149
Grade 6	1.1	27	1.8	7
SCS	0.4	4	0	0

Year Ending 31 03 2013

Defra			AHVLA	
Grade	Average Working Days Lost	Total Days Lost	Average Working Days Lost	Total Days Lost
AA	4.6	101.13	8.6	1306.46
AO	7.9	2058.48	8.3	5923.1
EO	5.8	1873.46	5.4	2742.65
HEO	4.9	2738.66	5.1	1521.75
SEO	2.6	904.39	2.6	577.41
Grade 7	2	836.64	6.1	1733.29
Grade 6	2.4	226.64	2.2	126
SCS	1.4	137.5	11.7	91
CEFAS			FERA	
Grade	Average Working Days Lost	Total Day Lost	Average Working Days Lost	Total Day Lost
AA	0	0	9.3	248
AO	7.1	699	9.4	1474
EO	6.4	800	6.7	1411
HEO	4.8	603	5.1	1139.8
SEO	3.5	390	2.3	252
Grade 7	1.9	108	2.8	219

Grade 6	1.7	36	0.7	13
SCS	0.7	2	0	0
Unknown	0	0	6.4	107
RPA				
VMD				
Grade	Average Working Days Lost	Total Days Lost	Average Working Days Lost	Total Days Lost
AA	16	16	23.1	15
AO	13.1	11550	8.8	362.23
EO	8.9	5675	6.2	195.43
HEO	6.7	1998.5	6	129.65
SEO	7.4	1087.5	2.6	38.92
Grade 7	5.4	471.5	2.3	77.86
Grade 6	4.5	175.5	1.9	8
SCS	1.9	27	0	0

In keeping with the spirit and effect of the FOIA, all information is assumed to be releasable to the public unless exempt. Therefore, 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

Direct Line: 020 7979 8583

Email ann.tarran@defra.gsi.gov.uk

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