



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs

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

Email:

Your ref:
Our ref: RFI 6345
Date: 19 March 2014

Dear

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION: Defra's spend on energy bills

Thank you for your request for information about 'how much Defra's facilities and workplaces spent on energy bills in the separate years of 2011, 2012, and 2013', which we received on 26th February 2014. We have handled your request under the freedom of information act 2000 (FOIA).

At the start of this three year period, Core Defra staff occupied five buildings. By the end of 2013 this had reduced to two buildings as Defra downsized its portfolio and improved space utilisation in remaining properties. The figures in the table below combine the energy spend at these sites.

	2011	2012	2013
Energy Spend (£)	587,192.36	654,312.32	638,525.66

Notes:

In addition to these portfolio changes, in 2013, the HR and payroll function that was formerly part of Core Defra became an independent entity with links to a private company. As a result, their occupancy of Defra buildings is only included in the above figures until end September 2013. There are an insignificant number of Core Defra staff occupying buildings as minor occupiers or in buildings which Defra are not responsible for energy spend, this has not been accounted for in the above figures but is immaterial.

During this time period, Half Hourly electricity has been supplied by EDF Energy and non-half hourly electricity by British Gas Business. Gas has been supplied by Corona Energy, and Total GP. Water has been supplied by Yorkshire Water, Thames Water and Northumbrian Water.



All of the department's electricity and gas is procured via the government energy framework managed by Crown Commercial Services. This pan-government contract ensures best value for money for the whole of government through economies of scale purchasing.

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
Defra Estates

Annex

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