



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs

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Your ref:
Our ref: RFI 6621
Date: 13 June 2014

Dear

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION: CIVIL SERVICE FAST TRACK APPRENTICESHIPS

Thank you for your request for information about Civil Service fast track apprenticeships, which we received on 29 May 2014. As you know, we have handled your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

You asked:

"I wish to request the following information under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 'The Act'.

For avoidance of any doubt any questions refer to "Civil Service Fast Track Apprenticeship Scheme"

<https://www.gov.uk/civil-service-apprenticeships>

Please provide me the following:

- 1. The pay scales for someone undertaking an Apprenticeship within your department.*
- 2. Apprentices in the department broken down by year from the scheme's creation.*
- 3. Annual leave entitlements for an Apprentice within your department.*
- 4. Contracted hours per week.*
- 5. From the onset of the scheme how many Apprentices have been dismissed.*
- 6. From the onset of the scheme how many Apprentices have resigned."*

The information you requested is as follows, and covers core Defra only:

The pay scales for someone undertaking an Apprenticeship under the Fast Track Apprenticeship scheme within the Department is between £25,363 – £29,063.

This is the first year the Department will have Apprentices. There will be 3 Fast track Apprentices starting in core Defra this year.

Fast track apprentices will have an Annual leave entitlement of 25 days and will be contracted for 37 hours per week.



There have been no dismissals or resignations of Fast Track Apprentices in core Defra.

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,

**Direct Line
Email**

Annex A

Copyright

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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