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Food & Rural Affairs

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## **REQUEST FOR INFORMATION: Information requests received by Defra over last 5 years**

I am replying to your of e-mail request of 2 April 2014, which we have handled under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA). You asked for the following information:

How many FOIs have you received?

How many have you responded to within the time period?

How many were responded to on the final day of the time period?

How many have you deemed to be over the threshold?

How many of these were put to internal review?

How many times was it found that it was indeed under the threshold at internal review

I have interpreted the term 'FOIs' as referring to requests made under both the FOIA and the Environmental Information Regulations (EIRs), and 'threshold' as referring to the costs limit. Please find the information you requested attached at Annex C in the form of a table. Please contact me if you need any clarification or further information.

In keeping with the spirit and effect of the FOIA, and in keeping with the government's Transparency Agenda, all information is assumed to be releasable to the public unless exempt. Therefore, the information released to you will now be published on [www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk) together with any related information that will provide a key to its wider context. Please note that this will not include your personal data.

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.

Yours sincerely

Guy Mawhinney

FOIA/EIRs Case Officer

## **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](mailto: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

## Annex C

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Total info requests received	596	574	688	715	845
Responded to within time period	514	506	561	646	758
Responded to on final day	146	117	137	159	199
Exceeded costs limit	22	15	25	39	24
Internal review (IR) on costs	2	0	1	2	1
IR complaint on costs upheld	0	n/a	0	0	0