



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs

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Your ref:
Our ref: RFI 7066
Date: 10 December 2014

Dear

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION: MATERNITY AND PATERNITY PAY

Thank you for your follow up request for information about maternity and paternity pay which we received on 9 November 2014. This was in response to our letter to you of 10 October 2014. As you know, we have handled your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

You asked:

"Please could you also supply details of rates at which maternity and paternity pay are paid, and in each case, for what duration."

The information you requested is as follows:

Maternity pay is paid for 9 months (39 weeks). For the first 26 weeks, the employee will be paid their contractual pay, providing they meet existing Defra qualifying conditions and the remaining 13 weeks will be paid as Statutory Maternity Pay. Employees with at least one year's service before the date on which the child is born can receive 15 days paternity pay at contractual pay. Those with less than one year's service can receive 9 days paternity pay at contractual pay.

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,

Defra FOIA and EIRs Team
informationrequests@defra.gsi.gov.uk



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