



ASSURING THE SAFETY, QUALITY & EFFICACY  
OF VETERINARY MEDICINES

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**ATI 288**

**Request**

**From:** [Redacted under section 40 of the FOIA]

**Sent:** 10 February 2014

**Subject:** relating to the number of female and male researchers VMD employ

Dear freedom of information officer

I would like to request, under the Freedom of Information Act, disaggregated data on the number of female and male researchers you employ. I would like receive details of the following:

-The number of female researchers in each discipline. Please indicate how many are teaching staff and how many are academics.

- The number of male researchers employed in each discipline. Please indicate how many are teaching staff and how many are academics.

-The number of women in top or managerial positions including the posts held by the women, for example, dean of faculty, principal investigator, etc. Top managerial positions include principal investigators, chief scientists, managers or directors. I am not looking for figures of those involved in departments such as finance or human resources or anyone not involved in teaching and or research. I only want figures for permanent staff.

**VMD Reply**

**Sent:** 10 February 2014

**To:** [Redacted under section 40 of the FOIA]

**Subject:** relating to the number of female and male researchers VMD employ

**Your Request**

Thank you for your email dated 10 February 2013. We have dealt with your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. You asked for disaggregated data on the number of female and male researchers we employ with details of the following for permanent staff:

- the number of female researchers in each discipline. Please indicate how many are teaching staff and how many are academics.
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- the number of male researchers employed in each discipline. Please indicate how many are teaching staff and how many are academics.
- the number of women in top or managerial positions including the posts held by the women, for example, dean of faculty, principal investigator, etc. Top managerial positions include principal investigators, chief scientists, managers or directors.

### **Our Reply**

It may help if I explain that the Veterinary Medicines Directorate (VMD) is a small Executive Agency of the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra). Our aim is to protect public health, animal health and the environment and promote animal welfare by assuring the safety, quality and efficacy of veterinary medicines.

We have about 160 people in the Agency none of whom are involved in teaching or research. We have a small Research and Development team that is responsible for the Veterinary Medicines Research and Development programme. The team commissions research for the programme but the actual research is carried out by other bodies not the VMD.

I attach for information a link to the VMD website, which includes in two pdfs, a full staff organogram and a summary of what work our teams do:

<http://www.vmd.defra.gov.uk/business/contact.aspx>

Under section 21 of the FOIA we do not have to provide this information because it is accessible to you via a website. Section 21 recognises that the right of access is supplementary to the many ways in which public authorities already provide information to members of the public. Please contact me again if I have misunderstood the information you are seeking in relation to the VMD's role as a regulatory agency or if you cannot find it via our website.

### **Our Service**

If you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request and wish to make a complaint, you may request an internal review within two calendar months of the date of this e-mail. If you would like to request an internal review please write to [Redacted under section 40 of the FOIA] at the VMD via [ati@vmd.defra.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:ati@vmd.defra.gsi.gov.uk). If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office

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