



**RE: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST**

Thank you for your email of received here on 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2016 requesting information on the Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC)'s expenditure on Christmas parties and bonuses paid to the Secretary of State and the Permanent Secretary.

In particular you asked:

1. How much money was spent on a Christmas/end of year 2015 party for Departmental staff?
2. Where was the party held?
3. How many staff were invited and how many staff attended?
4. Did staff receive any Christmas gifts?
5. If yes, how many staff received gifts, what were the gifts and what were their value?
6. Did staff receive a monetary Christmas bonus?
7. If so, how many staff received a bonus and how much was the bonus?
8. Did the Secretary of State receive a gift and/or bonus? If so, what was the gift, how much money was it worth, and how much money was the bonus?
9. Did the ministers receive a gift and/or bonus? If so, what were the gifts, how much money were they worth, and how much money were the bonuses?
10. Did the Permanent Secretary receive a Christmas gift and/or bonus? If so, what was the gift, how much money was it worth, and how much money was the bonus?

I can confirm that the Department of Energy and Climate Change did not host any Christmas parties paid from public funds last year nor were any Christmas bonuses paid to any member of staff or ministers.

## **Appeal Procedure**

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review. Internal review requests should be submitted within two months of the date of receipt of the response to your original letter and should be addressed to the Information Rights Unit at:

Information Rights Unit (DECC Shared Service)  
Department for Business, Innovation & Skills  
1 Victoria Street  
London  
SW1H 0ET (✉: [foi@decc.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:foi@decc.gsi.gov.uk).)

Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications

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, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF.