



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs

T: 03459 33 55 77 or
08459 33 55 77
helpline@defra.gsi.gov.uk
www.gov.uk/defra

Our ref: RFI 7238

Date: 23 February 2015

Dear [REDACTED]

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION: SUSPENSION OF EMPLOYEES

Thank you for your request for information, which we received on 2 February 2015, about suspension of employees. As you know, we have handled your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

The information you requested is as follows:

For the calendar years 2009-2015 (to date):

- 1. How many employees have been suspended for national security reasons;*
- 2. How many employees have been dismissed without suspension for national security reasons;*
- 3. For each suspended employee please provide the outcome and length of suspension to date;*
e.g. dismissed/contract terminated after 3 months' suspension;
still suspended after 2 years' suspension;
reinstated/suspension terminated after 1 week;

If it is possible in the time limits to also provide numbers of contractors or agency staff whose contracts have been a) suspended or b) terminated for national security reasons in each year please also provide this information.

There have been no suspensions or dismissals without suspension for National Security breaches within Defra over this period.

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 the address below.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]
Defra FOIA and EIRs Team

InformationRequests@defra.gsi.gov.uk



**INVESTORS
IN PEOPLE**

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 [REDACTED] 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