



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs

Area 4A, Nobel House
17 Smith Square
London
SW1P 3JR

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

Our ref: RFI 8600
27 October 2016

Dear [REDACTED]

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION: England Local Authority Industrial Pollution Control permitting expenditure and cost recovery

Thank you for your request for information, which we received on 6 September 2016, about England Local Authority Industrial Pollution control permitting expenditure and cost recovery from 2006 to 2016. As you know, we have handled your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

We wrote to you on the 3 October confirming that we do not hold the data for the period requested. You have subsequently confirmed that you are content to limit your request to the data we do have which is for the following Financial Years: 2010/11, 2011/12, 2012/13, 2013/14 and 2014/15. Please note that the information is not complete and reflects returns received from the local authorities to our annual statistical survey conducted on our behalf by Hartley McMasters.

Local Authorities recover costs of regulatory activity through income from permit fees and subsistence charges. For the years for which we have data we have provided both recorded costs and income from permit fees and charges for each LA. A comparison between income and cost will provide an idea of whether the LA has recovered their cost in any given year. However, there are some omissions in the data and there are likely to be errors in some of the returns so the data should be treated with an element of caution.

We enclose a copy of this information:

- A table showing returns from English local authorities showing income received from industrial pollution control environmental permitting application fees (including fees for substantial variations to permits) and subsistence charges for the Financial Years from 2010/11 to 2014/15 from both Part A2 and Part B regulated facilities.
- A table showing returns from English local authorities showing the costs of industrial pollution control environmental regulation for the Financial Years from 2010/11 to 2014/15 broken down by direct costs (directly delivering the service: salaries, monitoring equipment related to contact time, visits, drafting permit conditions, maintaining the register, enforcement etc) and indirect costs (premises and

transport, supplies and services, any capital charges, an appropriate share of all services and overheads etc).

Information disclosed in response to this FOIA request is releasable to the public. In keeping with the spirit and effect of the FOIA and the government's Transparency Agenda, this letter and the information disclosed to you may be placed on [GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk), together with any related information that will provide a key to its wider context. No information identifying you will be placed on the GOV.UK website.

We attach Annex A, which explains the copyright that applies to the information being released to you.

We 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,



Information Rights Team

InformationRequests@defra.gsi.gov.uk

Annex A

Copyright

The information supplied to you continues to be protected by copyright. You are free to use it for your own purposes, including for private study and non-commercial research, and for any other purpose authorised by an exception in current copyright law. Documents (except photographs or logos) can be also used in the UK without requiring permission for the purposes of news reporting. Any other re-use, for example commercial publication, would require the permission of the copyright holder.

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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 Rights, Area 4A, Nobel House, 17 Smith Square, London, SW1P 3JR (email: InformationRequests@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's Office (ICO) for a decision. Please note that generally the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have first exhausted Defra's own complaints procedure. The ICO can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF