



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 7140

Date: 4 February 2015

Dear [REDACTED]

**REQUEST FOR INFORMATION: CORRESPONDENCE WITH THE SMITH
COMMISSION**

Thank you for your request for information, which we received on 6 January, about correspondence between Defra and the Smith Commission concerning further powers to be devolved to the Scottish Parliament. We have handled your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

I am writing to advise you that the information that you have requested is not held by Defra.

In the hope that it may prove useful to you, I have set out the background to the UK Government's role in providing the Smith Commission with factual analysis.

Both the UK and Scottish Governments provided factual information to the Smith Commission's request for factual assessments of the parties' proposals. This analysis was intended to set out the accurate position of how policy works in key areas – including an indication of devolved and reserved responsibilities within the policy areas – as well as the important considerations in each individual policy area when examining the devolution of powers. Analysis provided by both the UK and Scottish Governments has already been published on the Smith Commission website and can be found here: <https://www.smith-commission.scot/resources/>.

I attach an annex giving contact details should you be unhappy with the service that 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



Annex

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