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[Redacted]

By email: [Redacted]

Our ref: FOI2019/19496
14 October 2019

Dear [Redacted]

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION: Second Property Expenses

Thank you for your revised request for information of 17 September 2019 about second property expenses. We have handled your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

The information you requested and our response are detailed below.

How many DEFRA staff made a lodging allowance in 2018 / 19 and what is the total value of such claims?

In the 2018/19 financial year, 100 different members of staff made a claim for a lodging allowance and the total value of such claims was £7,937 (across 230 claims). The lodging allowance category is for staff to be reimbursed the actual cost of rent and utility standing charges at the detached duty location (if a double commitment exists at the home and detached duty station) up to a daily ceiling limit of £42.

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, 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, explaining the copyright that applies to the information being released to you, and 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

[Redacted]

Information Rights Team
InformationRequests@defra.gov.uk



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 11 of the EIRs, as applicable, within 40 working days of the date of this letter. Please write to Andrew Mobsby, Head of Information Rights, Area 5B, Nobel House, 17 Smith Square, London, SW1P 3JR (email: InformationRequests@defra.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