



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs

Nobel House
Area 4a
17 Smith Square
London
SW1P 3JR

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

Our ref: FOI2019/02782
6 March 2019

Dear

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION: Staff numbers in DEFRA forestry team

Thank you for your request for information of 6th February about Staff numbers in DEFRA forestry team. We have handled your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

The information you requested is set out in the table below. Please note that the headcount is by division, not team. Headcount data is also from the DEFRA payroll and does not include inward loans or secondments (for example from the Forestry Commission), who remain on the payroll of their parent organisations. It is also worth noting that staff often work across group topics when servicing particular work streams and that teams within areas can be re-prioritised to meet demand, resulting in temporary changes in staff numbers working within a particular team during any given time period. Finally, detailed historical records of staff numbers within any specific team are not available, but for more recent years the table below shows core Defra forestry policy staff numbers that are believed to be accurate.

Changes in recent years reflect the position of forestry policy within a wider division. The Cost Centre Name column denotes the different areas and remits, and these remits have changed over the years. Forestry has a narrower remit than the previous Land-use and recreational division, with core forestry resource remaining relatively constant.

Month/year	Cost Centre Name	Headcount	Core Forestry staff numbers	Total FTE
Dec 2010	Landscape, Recreation, Forestry and National Parks	25 Staff	Accurate figures not available	23.79 FTE
Dec 2011	Landscape, Recreation, Forestry and National Parks	32 Staff	Accurate figures not available	30.58 FTE
Dec 2012	Landscape and Outdoor Recreation (Divisional	36 Staff	Accurate figures not available	33.90 FTE



	restructure as of April 2012)			
Dec 2013	Landscape and outdoor recreation	27 Staff	5	25.59 FTE
Dec 2014	Landscape and outdoor recreation	26 Staff	6	25.13 FTE
Dec 2015	Landscape and outdoor recreation	23 Staff	6	22.35 FTE
Dec 2016	Land Use and Recreation (Divisional restructuring, data as of May 2016)	46 Staff	4	43.40 FTE
Dec 2017	Land Use and Recreation	29 Staff	6	26.9 FTE
Dec 2018	DEF Climate and Forestry (divisional restructure as of April 2018)	18 Staff	6	17.41 FTE

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, 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 the address below.

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.

Most documents produced by Defra will be protected by Crown Copyright. Most Crown copyright information can be re-used under the [Open Government Licence](#). For information about the OGL and about re-using Crown Copyright information please see [The National Archives website](#).

Copyright in other documents may rest with a third party. For information about obtaining permission from a third party see the [Intellectual Property Office's website](#).

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 Nick Teall, 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