

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for your request for information that we received on 9 February 2026. We have handled your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Your request

Please provide the following information in relation to Zoetis Inc. and its subsidiaries, insofar as they relate to the Veterinary Medicines Directorate (VMD):

1. Whether the VMD currently employs, or has employed within the last five years, any staff members who have:
 - held shares, stock options, or any other financial interests in Zoetis Inc.;
 - received gifts, hospitality, travel, accommodation, holidays, or other benefits in kind funded or provided directly or indirectly by Zoetis Inc.;
 - received financial payments, honoraria, consultancy fees, sponsorship, research funding, or financial awards (including merit-based or discretionary payments) from Zoetis Inc.
2. Whether the VMD requires staff to declare:
 - financial interests, gifts, hospitality, or other benefits received by immediate family members (including spouses, partners, or dependent relatives); and
 - if so, whether any such declared interests or benefits relate to Zoetis Inc.
3. The number of declarations (anonymised and aggregated) made in the last five years that relate to Zoetis Inc., including the category of interest or benefit declared.
4. Copies of the VMD's current policies and guidance governing:
 - declarations of interests;
 - gifts and hospitality;
 - conflicts of interest; and
 - the management of relationships with pharmaceutical or veterinary medicines companies.

I am not seeking any personal data that would identify individual members of staff. Aggregated or suitably anonymised information will be sufficient.

Our reply

As a regulatory authority, the VMD abide by the Regulators Code and staff by the Civil Service's core values of integrity, honesty, objectivity and impartiality.

We do require staff to declare interests received by immediate family members. Declarations of interest are used to determine the constraints placed on individuals in conducting our regulatory functions. We confirm that no individual where a declaration exists was permitted to work on products, or be involved in discussions, related to their conflict of interest, and in certain areas this extends to 5 years after the conflict ceases.

The VMD has one employee whose spouse once worked for and held shares in Zoetis. This declaration is no longer current.

Year	Declarations
2025/2026	1 staff (now ex-staff) held investment fund shares that included Zoetis.

2024/2025	1 staff relation worked for Zoetis and held shares. 1 staff (now ex-staff) worked for Zoetis, held shares, and pension.
2023/2024	1 staff relation worked for Zoetis and held shares. 1 staff (now ex-staff) worked for Zoetis Australia.
2022/2023	1 staff relation worked for Zoetis and held shares.
2021/2022	1 staff (now ex-staff) worked for Zoetis Australia.

Attached are the VMD's current policies and guidance governing declarations of interests and gifts and hospitality.

Year	Gifts and hospitality
2025/2026	none
2024/2025	During an inspection in China 1 staff received: ▪ Lunch valued at approximately £10 ▪ Dinner valued at approximately £20 ▪ A scarf valued at approximately £10
2023/2024	none
2022/2023	none
2021/2022	none

These were recorded in accordance with VMD's policies on gifts and hospitality.

No other gifts, funding, or resources have been provided by Zoetis to the VMD during this period.

Information releasable to the public

In keeping with the spirit and effect of the FOIA, EIR and the government's Transparency Agenda, we may place this request on [GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk), in due course. We will not place information identifying you on [GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk).

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Our Service

If you are unhappy with our service 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 email.

Please write to the Data Protection Manager at postmaster@vmd.gov.uk who will arrange an internal review of your case.

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 VMD's own complaints procedure.

The Information Commissioner can be contacted at www.ico.org.uk/foicomplaints

Kind regards,

A solid black rectangular box used to redact the signature of the sender.