

**Department of Energy &
Climate Change**
3 Whitehall Place,
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www.decc.gov.uk

Our Ref: 12/1519

20 November 2012

Dear NAME REDACTED,

Thank you for your correspondence of 29 October 2012 requesting, under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, the following information:

I understand that senior officials at DECC have to register details of any hospitality received. I would like to request copies of the relevant register entries for the following staff working at the Office for Nuclear Development:

- *Mark Higson*
- *Hergen Haye*
- *Peter McDonald*
- *Stephen de Souza*

I would like to limit my request from 29 October 2009 to the present day.

A table of relevant entries from the hospitality register is attached at Annex 1. I have interpreted your request to refer to the names above in their capacity as members of the Senior Civil Service in the Office for Nuclear Development. Please note that Peter McDonald did not become a Senior Civil Servant until 1 June 2012.

The names of individuals who provided the hospitality have been withheld under Section 40 (2) of the FOIA. This information is exempt as it constitutes personal data, the disclosure of which, would contravene one or more of the data protection principles. Personal data can only be disclosed in accordance with the data protection principles. The first data protection principle requires that disclosure must be fair and lawful and must comply with one of the conditions in Schedule 2 of the Data Protection Act. We do not consider that it is fair and reasonable to release the names of those who provided the hospitality and do not consider that any of the relevant conditions apply. The names of the organisations providing the hospitality have been included.

Please note that the expenses of Senior Civil Servants at Director General level and above are published at <https://update.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/resource-library/business-expenses-senior-officials> in accordance with Cabinet Office guidance.

If you are unhappy with the result of your request for information, you may request an internal review within two calendar months of the date of this letter. If you wish to request an internal review, please contact:

Information and Security Rights Team (DECC Shared Service)
Department of Business, Innovation & Skills
Victoria 3, 5th Floor
1 Victoria Street
London SW1H 0ET
Email: foi@decc.gsi.gov.uk

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

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

Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

Yours sincerely,

NAME REDACTED
Office for Nuclear Development