

Centre City Tower, 7 Hill Street, Birmingham B5 4UA
21 Bloomsbury Street, London WC1B 3HF

By email

19 February 2016

Environmental Information Regulations – Request For Information

Reference: EIR 26022016

Dear 

Thank you for your request for information. I write to confirm that the information you have requested is not held by Ofwat.

For your information Ofwat has never collected data from companies on their use of electricity, for example, how many kilowatt-hours of energy they consume. However some water companies do publish this information in their annual financial accounts (or information from which total usage may be calculated). I have included some examples which are available on water company's websites, for example, the following statements in Anglian Water's and Bristol Water's regulatory accounts:

“Self-generation from all our renewable sources for 2014/15 was 100GWh (14.1 per cent of total consumption), compared to 64.1GWh in 2013/14 (8.9 per cent).”

Source: ANGLIAN WATER SERVICES LIMITED ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS 2015

“As part of our new energy efficiency programme we have improved our management of water sources and pumping (our main consumption of energy) with further improvements in energy-intensive sites over the coming two years. Although this work is ongoing, due to hot weather during summer we needed to make greater use of water from sources that require a higher amount of energy to treat and supply. As a result our electrical energy consumption in 2013/14 was 79,751 MWh, about 7% higher than last year's figure of 73,881 MWh.”

Source: BRISTOL WATER plc REGULATORY ACCOUNTING STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2014

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“Overall energy use of 260.68GWh for 2014/15 was marginally lower than the previous year (2013/14: 264.5GWh).”

Source: SOUTH WEST WATER ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 2015

“The recently completed Davyhulme wastewater site has contributed to the group’s highest ever renewable energy production in 2013/14 of 133 GWh. This represents c17 per cent of total electricity consumption...”

Source: UNITED UTILITIES WATER PLC Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2014

It may be helpful for you to look at individual websites as they contain a wide range of useful information, for example, Thames Water’s site:

<http://www.thameswater.co.uk/cr/Climatechange/Mitigatingclimatechange/Managingourcarbonfootprint/index.html>

Regarding the industry as a whole the Environment Agency have published the following

https://www.google.co.uk/url?sa=t&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=web&cd=1&cad=rja&uact=8&ved=0ahUKEwjCm8674oHLAhWK2BoKHStJB7QQFggcMAA&url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.gov.uk%2Fgovernment%2Fuploads%2Fsystem%2Fuploads%2Fattachment_data%2Ffile%2F291635%2Fscho1209brob-e-e.pdf&usq=AFQjCNEJszjss7TrVfRzpeIhoyalfrtL8Q&bvm=bv.114733917,d.d2s

which states “The water industry is a very large user of energy, it consumes 8100 GWh per annum resulting in over 4 million tonnes of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions; about 1% of all UK emissions.”

Finally the below link contains some general information which Ofwat has published which you may find useful:

<http://www.ofwat.gov.uk/publication/balance-of-risk-risk-and-reward-across-the-water-and-sewerage-value-chain/>

Freedom of Information/EIR Information Not Held

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If you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request and wish to make a complaint or request a review of the decision, please contact:

Programme Office
Ofwat
Centre City Tower
7 Hill Street
Birmingham B5 4UA
mailbox@ofwat.gsi.gov.uk

If you are not happy with the outcome of that review you can ask the Information Commissioner's Office to consider your complaint. Generally, the ICO will not make a decision unless you have exhausted Ofwat's complaints procedure. The ICO can be contacted at:

<https://ico.org.uk/>

or

The Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow

Yours sincerely,

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Christine Manise

Senior Associate, Freedom of Information

Operations

Ofwat

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