

Freedom of Information/EIR Provide the Information

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

By email

19 December 2017

Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) 2000 - Request For Information

Reference: FOI 201712111

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your request for information concerning expenditure on bottled water costs since 2015..

Ofwat confirms it does hold some of the information and is contained in the attached spreadsheet report. The costs relate to a period in June and July 2015, spanning an 8 week period, where Ofwat purchased bottled water for staff consumption at its Head Office in Birmingham. This was a one off occasion, whilst we undertook office moves within the building. Ordinarily we do not purchase bottled water and we use a water filtration system using zip taps connected to the mains water supply and prior to the office move Ofwat also used a mains water filtration system.

Some of the information you have requested in respect of average number of staff Ofwat considers to be exempt from disclosure under the terms and conditions of the FOIA.

The exemption applied is **s21- Information reasonably accessible to the applicant by other means.**

Under Section 21 of the FOIA we are not obliged to provide the information if it is reasonably accessible to you by another means. In this instance, Ofwat workforce data is published within our annual report and accounts and Ofwat's published workforce data sets. We do not hold an official average figure for staff working at Head Office, as most of Ofwat contracts require staff to work from both our Birmingham and London office.

The 2016/2017 annual report is available at this link

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/water-services-regulation-authority-ofwat-annual-report-and-accounts-2016-to-2017> and for 2015/2016 here
<https://www.ofwat.gov.uk/publication/ofwat-annual-report-accounts-2015-16/>.

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Ofwat workforce data for the period of 2015-2016 can be found at the following link <https://www.ofwat.gov.uk/publications/workforce-management-information/>, whilst 2017 data is now held here <https://data.gov.uk/dataset/ofwat-workforce-management-information>

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Further information concerning your rights is available from the Information Commissioner's Office at:

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

or

The Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow

Yours sincerely,

Christine Manise
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