

Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs

Area 1B Ergon House
c/o 17 Smith Square
London
SW1P 3JR



Telephone 08459 33 55 77
Website www.defra.gov.uk

Mr William Olde
(c/o whatdotheyknow.com)

Our ref RFI 3409
Date 23 July 2010

Dear Mr Olde,

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION: OPEN SOURCE SOFTWARE

Thank you for your request for information about our studies, use and policies on open source software, which we received on 25 June 2010.

As confirmed in our letter of 29th June, we have dealt with your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Our response is as follows:

Defra considers the use of open source (OSS) technology wherever possible in line with the [UK Government's Open Source Strategy](#) and the [UK Government ICT Strategy](#) published by the last Government.

The Defra Network does not have any specific published policies or studies relating to Open Source Software.

The open source software we are currently using within Defra is:

Wordpress - used to run the Defra external website (defra.gov.uk) and a number of other externally facing websites;

Within the Spatial Information Repository (SPIRE) programme we have used products such as **UMN MapServer**, **AWStats**, **Tomcat**, **GeoServer** and **Perl** modules within the SPIRE development;

In keeping with the spirit and effect of the FOIA, all information is assumed to be releasable to the public unless exempt. The information released to you may now be published on our website together with any related information that will provide a key to its wider context.



If you have any queries about this letter, please contact me. I also attach an annexe giving contact details should you be unhappy with the service you have received.

Yours sincerely

Jodie Walker

Email IS.Communications@defra.gsi.gov.uk

Annexe A

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 within 40 working days of the date of this letter. Please write to Brendon Walsh, Head of Defra's Information Rights Team at, Area1B Ergon House, Horseferry Road, London SW1P 2AL, (email: informationrights@defra.gsi.gov.uk) who will arrange for an internal review of your case. Details of Defra's complaints procedure can be found at: <http://www.defra.gov.uk/corporate/complain/info.htm>

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. Please note that generally the Information Commissioner cannot make a decision unless you have first exhausted Defra's own complaints procedure. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

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

Annex B

Complaints

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