



# Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy

Department for Business, Energy &  
Industrial Strategy  
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SW1H 0ET

Mr Richard Bales  
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FOI2019/01852

5 March 2019

Dear Mr Richard Bales,

Thank you for your email of 4 February 2019 where you requested the following information:

1. *How many days (total) were claimed/ paid for the period October 1st 2018 to January 31st 2019?*
2. *How many of those days were spent meeting with local communities or concerned local parties? Please provide dates, locations and (where possible subject to data protection and FOI exemptions) attendees of such meetings.*
3. *How many of those days were spent meeting with industry representatives or agencies employed by industry to promote their interests? Please provide dates, locations and (where possible subject to data protection and FOI exemptions) attendees of such meetings.*
4. *How many of those days were spent meeting with regulatory agencies? Please provide dates, locations and (where possible subject to data protection and FOI exemptions) attendees of such meetings.*
5. *How many of those days were spent meeting with Government Ministers or their nominated representatives? Please provide dates, locations and (where possible subject to data protection and FOI exemptions) attendees of such meetings.*
6. *How many of those days were spent in researching the subject of Shale Gas and Fracking to improve the Commissioner's understanding of the topic?*

Under the Environmental Information Regulations, we are required to respond to requests as soon as possible, and in any case no later than 20 working days after receiving a request. However, by regulation 7, the period of 20 working days may be extended up to a total of 40 working days if we reasonably believe that the complexity and volume of the information requested means that it is impractical to comply with a request within the earlier period or to make a decision to refuse to do so.

In respect of your request, we believe that regulation 7 applies. Therefore, although we shall not be able to respond fully to your request within the 20 working day period, we shall do so as soon as possible within the extended period. We hope to provide you with a response by 01 April 2019.

## Appeals procedure

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review. Internal review requests should be submitted within two months of the date of receipt of the response to your original request and should be addressed to the Information Rights Unit:

Information Rights Unit  
Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy  
1 Victoria Street  
London  
SW1H 0ET  
Email: [FOI.Requests@beis.gov.uk](mailto:FOI.Requests@beis.gov.uk)

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

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

Yours sincerely,

Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy