



Food
Standards
Agency
food.gov.uk

[REDACTED]

Our Reference: FOI 1845

By email: [REDACTED]

Date: 23 February 2016

Dear [REDACTED]

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST

I write further to my letter of 8 February 2016 regarding your request for information about prosecutions undertaken by the Food Standards Agency (FSA).

Your request for information was received on 4 February and was as follows:

Please treat this as a request under the FoI Act 2000.

Using your public available data, I have been able to access annual prosecution data, for each of the years 2003 to 2014/15. However, I have not been able to locate successful prosecutions / convictions data. Can you therefore provide this for each of the following years:

2003, 2004/5, 2005/6, 2006/7, 2007/8, 2008/9, 2009/10, 2010/11, 2011/12, 2012/13, 2013/14 & 2014/15.

You later clarified your request on 8 February as follows:

To be clear I am interested in the total number of successful prosecutions by year, not at all in specific names etc.

I am handling your request under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (the Act).

I can confirm that the Food Standards Agency (FSA) holds information falling within the terms of your request.

To place my response in context, you will wish to note that, as well as investigating alleged offences under legislation where it is the competent authority, the FSA also investigates alleged offences on behalf of DEFRA, the Welsh government and the Scottish government, where they are the competent authority. For the purposes of

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this response, I am only providing figures relating to successful prosecutions for food hygiene and food safety offences where the FSA is the competent authority.

Please find below a table detailing the number of successful prosecutions undertaken in each of the years since 2002/03. Cases in England and Wales will have been brought by the FSA itself, whilst those cases taken on our behalf by the Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service in Scotland or the Departmental Solicitor's Office in Northern Ireland are noted in the "Jurisdiction" column. I have identified both the total number of successful prosecution cases and the number of companies or individuals who were convicted as a result of those prosecutions. You will wish to note that all Scottish and Northern Irish prosecutions resulted in a conviction against a single company or individual.

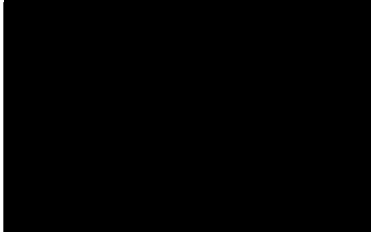
Year	Number of cases	Number of separate convictions	Jurisdiction (England & Wales unless stated)
2002-03	5	5	
2003-04	21	21	
2004-05	14	15	1 x Northern Ireland
2005-06	17	19	
2006-07	21	25	4 x Scotland
2007-08	17	19	3 x Scotland
2008-09	12	12	4 x Scotland 1 x Northern Ireland
2009-10	18	18	7 x Scotland
2010-11	21	21	5 x Scotland
2011-12	13	15	2 x Scotland
2012-13	6	6	
2013-14	7	7	2 x Northern Ireland
2014-15	10	12	
2015- to date	6	7	

If you have any queries about this letter, please contact me on the details provided in the footer of this letter. Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

If you are not satisfied with the way the FSA has handled your request for information, you should write within two calendar months of the date of this letter to the Openness Team, and ask for an internal review. They will arrange for the Complaints Coordinator to conduct the review. Their address is Food Standards Agency, Room 2C Aviation House, 125 Kingsway, London, WC2B 6NH (email: Openness.team@foodstandards.gsi.gov.uk).

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. Generally, the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the complaints procedure provided by the FSA. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF or through the website at: www.ico.gov.uk.

Yours sincerely



Regulatory and Legal Strategy Directorate