

2006-07 Q1 Report

Background

This report is based on the actual information on the Teams Request Trackers, at the end of Q1 2006-07.

We only track complex requests, which are defined as:

1. requests which fall outside our normal course of business;
2. requests for information where we might refuse eg sensitive, confidential information or a repeat request;
3. requests for information related to the **policy making process**;
4. requests on which it may be necessary to consult with others either within English Nature or outside;
5. requests for large amounts of information or information which may be difficult to locate;
6. requests which seem unclear or too general to deal with, and where we will need to seek clarification from the applicant;
7. requests for information where a search is made, but none is found.

Requests

- 27 requests for information have been logged on to the English Nature request trackers.
- 96% were identified as requests under the Environmental Information Regulations.
- 4% were identified as requests under the Freedom of Information Act.
- 41% of requests were from private citizens.
- 30% of requests were from businesses.
- 15% of requests were from other public bodies.
- 14% split between the media, NGOs and, academics.

Information Requested

- 11% of requests related to development/planning related.
- 16% of requests related to contracts, surveys and datasets.
- 49% of requests related to SSSIs, species or habitat related.
- 24% other types of requests.

English Nature Performance

- We have dealt with 21 requests within our 15 working day service standards.
- We have dealt with two requests beyond our service standard but within the legal deadline.
- The timeliness of responding to requests breaks down to:
 - 0–5 days = 10 requests
 - 6–10 days = 9 requests
 - 11–15 days = 2 requests
 - 16–20 days = 2 request
- We have provided all information in 18 cases.
- We have partially provided information in four cases.
- We have refused in full no requests this quarter.
- We have been unable to complete one request as we didn't hold the information.
- At the end of the Quarter, we had four ongoing cases.

Another successful quarter, whilst there has been a drop in the number of requests we have noticed an increase in the complexity and depth of the requests.

Internal Advice

Requests for internal advice continue to be less than 100.

Request of the Quarter

We were asked for information about Jurassic fossil collecting from 1991 including consents, development, damage to sites etc covering four Area Teams and one National Team.

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