

Annex A

Request

1) Please state the number of meat hygiene inspectors employed by the FSA in each of the last 10 calendar years.

2) Please state the number of occasions that companies have been prosecuted for breaching meat hygiene standards in each of the last ten calendar years.

Please include all fields in your prosecution recording database that are releasable under FOIA, which should include the name of the company prosecuted, the date of the prosecution, the reason for the prosecution, any free text held summarising the offence, and the total fine or other penalty applied.

Response

Prior to April 2010 Meat Hygiene Inspectors (MHIs) were employed by the Meat Hygiene Service and were therefore not employed by the Food Standards Agency (FSA). MHIs only became FSA employees following the merger in April 2010.

It should be noted that the figures provided in the table below only refer to MHIs employed directly by the FSA. In order to support the operational delivery requirements to provide a MHI resource in approved premises, the FSA works closely with our Shared Business Partners who provide additional MHI resources.

At the beginning of the current financial year the Shared Business Partners provided 275 additional MHIs.

The figures in the table for 2011-2015 include FSA employed MHIs in England, Scotland and Wales. However, the figures for 2016 onwards only include FSA employed MHIs from England and Wales due to Food Standards Scotland (FSS) being established on 01 April 2015.

Year (as at 31st December)	MHIs directly employed by FSA (does not include all FSA MHIs resources)
2010	667
2011	646
2012	609
2013	572
2014	520
2015	445
2016	453
2017	406
2018	374

In response to part 2 of the request, the number of occasions that companies have been prosecuted by the FSA for breaching food hygiene standards in meat plants in each of the last ten years are provided in the table below:

Year	Number of Convictions
2009	1
2010	3
2011	9
2012	2
2013	1
2014	2
2015	2
2016	3
2017	2
2018	6

Prior to the establishment of FSS on 01 April 2015, FSA prosecutions could include premises in Scotland.

Details of the convictions, along with full titles of the domestic legislation, are shown in Annex B of this letter.