The overall intake of new requests for Period 9 (P9) was 129. This is a 2% increase from the last period, although it is a 5% decrease on requests received in the same P9 of 2018/2019.

The average weekly intake of requests for the period was 33.

The number of high profile cases received during P9 was 8; this is a 11% decrease compared to the previous period.

We achieved 99% compliance during P9. This remains a very strong performance against the regulator’s benchmark of 90%.

We provided information in response to 72% of requests during P9. This is a significant 14% increase from P8, and is the second highest rate of disclosure achieved in a period (73% in P6) since we became subject to the FOI and EIR in 2015.

We received three new first stage appeals (known as Internal Reviews - IRs) during P9. Two IRs were closed during P9.

There were no new second stage appeal to the Information Commissioner’s Office (ICO) in this period. Two appeals continue to be investigated by the ICO, and both are complex cases. Formal arguments have been submitted to the ICO in the case of the request for cost and business case information for over 20 programmes of work in the last 15 years; we have maintained our position to refuse the request as ‘manifestly unreasonable’. We await a formal Decision from the ICO, as the requestor has refused approaches for an informal resolution of the complaint. The second case concerns a request for a copy of a disciplinary investigation report; we refused the request under the exemption for personal information. Copies of the relevant information have been provided to the ICO for review and further discussion, prior to finalising our position.

It remains the case that there have been no third stage appeals to the First-Tier Tribunal.