

Department for Environment Food and Rural Affairs

Defra estates catering

Defra has a single catering contract across its operations, currently held by Eurest. Previously the bulk of Defra's catering was contracted to Baxter Storey (London, Workington and York Foss House) with the rest contracted to Aramark (York Fera), Hampers (Lowestoft) OCS (Weybridge) and Eurest (Newcastle, Worcester). In respect of the Baxter Storey contracts, the large majority of fresh meat, dairy and vegetables was sourced from UK producers and all, where relevant, was to British production standards or equivalent.

The current contract has been in place since mid-May 2011 following an open competition so the data included in this report is in respect of a limited time period. It will be updated regularly to show progress over time.

The Government Buying Standards for Food and Catering were introduced on the 16th June 2011. Our Greening Government Commitments include the intention to embed the GBS in departmental and centralised procurement contracts, within the context of Government's overarching priorities of value for money and streamlining procurement processes.

In keeping with standard GBS practice, there is a 3-month lead-in time for Government contracts to begin compliance in respect of new contracts and they are encouraged to comply where possible in respect of existing contracts. Defra intends to collect data on all GBS mandatory criteria following the completion of this period (September 2011) which will form the baseline to measure future progress.

DEFRA Data at 30th June 2011	£ %	Comments
Proportion of food by value which has been produced to UK production standards or equivalent.	£71,913 99%	This figure reflects the % that we are confident is produced to UK production standards or equivalent.
Action taken or in progress to ensure future contracts reflect the Government's commitment on food produced to UK or equivalent standards.		Defra will be working with our caterers to ensure that they meet and aim to exceed all aspects the government Buying Standards for food and catering