6 EMPLOYEE BENEFIT COSTS AND EMPLOYEE NUMBERS

Employee benefit costs, including Directors' remuneration, were as follows:

Total employee benefit costs	159	145
Less: amount capitalised as part of property, plant and equipment	(4)	(2)
Sub-total	163	147
Charge for defined benefit plans (note 7)	10	7
Contributions to defined contribution plans	4	3
Social security costs	11	10
Share-based payments	9	6
Wages and salaries	129	121
	Year ended 31 December 2006 £m	Year ended 31 December 2005 £m

Details of Directors' remuneration along with information concerning shareholdings, options and retirement benefits are set out in the audited part of the Directors' remuneration report on pages 64 to 75. There are no personnel, other than the Directors, who as key management have authority and responsibility for planning, directing and controlling the activities, directly or indirectly, of International Power plc.

The average number of employees during the financial year, analysed by geographic segment was:

	Year ended 31 December 2006 Number	Year ended 31 December 2005 Number
North America	276	220
Europe	1,196	1,195
Middle East	625	615
Australia	769	742
Asia	628	633
Corporate and development	177	174
Average number of employees	3,671	3,579