

Bovine TB

Government badger control costs 2015

August 2016

Background

On 28 August 2015, Defra announced that as part of its measured approach to tackling bovine TB and achieving disease control benefits, Natural England had licensed and authorised local farmers and landowners to carry out targeted badger control in Gloucestershire, Somerset and Dorset in 2015.

Operations took place from 31 August 2015 to 12 October 2015 in Somerset and Dorset and from 2 September 2015 to 14 October 2015 in Gloucestershire.

Badger control costs

Information on costs to Government in 2013, 2014 and 2015 is provided in Table 1 below.

Badger control costs	2013	2014	2015
Licensing and compliance monitoring	£859,000	£1,036,000	£1,003,000
Humaneness monitoring, including post mortems	£2,628,000	£1,515,000	£154,000
Efficacy monitoring	£2,311,000	£17,000	£0
Advice and assessments	£389,000	£294,000	£460,000
Other costs, including equipment	£107,000	£205,000	£162,000
Total cost	£6,294,000	£3,067,000	£1,779,000

Information and data on badger control monitoring in Somerset, Gloucestershire and Dorset in 2015 is available at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/bovine-tb-summary-of-badger-control-monitoring-during-2015>

Badger control policing costs funded by Defra

Information on badger control policing costs funded by Defra in 2013, 2014 and 2015 is provided in Table 2 below.

Badger control policing costs funded by Defra	2013	2014	2015
Avon and Somerset	Included in total cost below	Included in total cost below	£555,514
Gloucestershire	Included in total cost below	Included in total cost below	£553,005
Dorset	Not applicable	Not applicable	£694,728
Total cost	£3,524,000	£1,392,000	£1,803,247



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