

Our ref: CRS 724,871
Your ref:

Second Floor
Woodlands
Manton Lane
BEDFORD MK41 7LW

Via Email

Direct Line:

14 August 2015

Dear

**ENVIRONMENT INFORMATION REGULATIONS
LITTLE WHIRLPOOL RAMSHORN SNAIL COLONY MIGRATION TRIAL (A47 ACLE
STRAIGHT)**

Thank you for your e-mail of 29 July. I have dealt with it under the terms of the Environmental Information Regulations 2004.

This is because the information requested concerns measures and activities affecting or likely to affect elements of the environment or affect factors such as noise, pollution discharges and other releases into the environment.

You request the following information:

- All letters, e-mails and other communications, between parties and stakeholders, and
- Background documents such as ecological assessments and technical briefings, relating to the agreement between Highways England, Natural England and local landowners to carry out a trial of moving the Little Whirlpool Ramshorn Snail colony at the A47 Acle Straight location to a different habitat.

There has been no agreement made between Highways England and any other party to carry out a trial for moving the Little Whirlpool Snail colony at the A47 Straight.

We have, however, commissioned consultants to undertake a feasibility study into the translocation of the Little Whirlpool Ramshorn Snail. The report has yet to be finalised and will be so, subject to our review but we do not expect that it will be substantially revised.

We have made some redactions from the draft report. These relate to:

- Possible recipient sites for translocated snails (redacted in line with regulation 12(5)(g) of the Environmental Information Regulations).

- Names of third parties who provided the consultants with suggestions for possible recipient sites (redacted in reliance of the exception in regulation 13 of the Environmental Information Regulations).
- Names and contact details of contributors to the study (redacted in reliance of the exception in Regulation 13 of the Environmental Information Regulations).
- Commercially sensitive information (redacted in reliance of the exception in Section 12(5)(e) of the Environmental Information Regulations).

Copies of the Public Interest Tests conducted as part of this information request and relating to the non-disclosure of sites for translocated snails and non-disclosure of commercially sensitive information are attached.

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If you are unhappy with the way we have handled your request you may ask for an internal review. Our internal review process is available at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/highways-england/about/complaints-procedure>

If you require a print copy, please phone the Information Line on 0300 123 5000; or e-mail info@highwaysengland.co.uk. You should contact me if you wish to complain.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF

If you have any queries about this letter, please contact me. Please remember to quote reference number 724,871 in any future communications.

Yours sincerely

Business Coordinator
Network Delivery & Development (East)
Email: