



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs

Defra News and External
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Our ref: RFI 5990
Date: 6 December 2013

Dear 

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION: CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN DEFRA AND BBC REGARDING COVERAGE OF BADGER CULL

Thank you for your request for information asking whether there were any requests made to the BBC by Defra or affiliated agencies for them to limit TV or radio coverage, with regards to the badger cull coverage, which we received on 9 November 2013. As you know, we have handled your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

You requested information on any discussions or correspondence between Defra or any affiliated organisations and the BBC.

I enclose a copy of the information you requested:

- Email correspondence (1 of 6)
- Email correspondence (2 of 6)
- Email correspondence (3 of 6)
- Email correspondence (4 of 6)
- Email correspondence (5 of 6)
- Email correspondence (6 of 6)

We have decided that the information in these emails relating to members of Defra staff should be withheld under section 40(2) (third party personal data) of the FOIA. This information is considered personal data as it includes names, numbers of direct phone lines, and email addresses of Defra staff members. Section 40(2) of the FOIA provides that personal data relating to third parties is exempt information if disclosure would breach the Data Protection Act 1998 (DPA).



We consider that disclosure of this information is likely to breach the first data protection principle in Schedule 1 to the DPA, which relates to the fair and lawful processing of personal data, in two ways. First, disclosure would not constitute 'fair' processing of the personal data, second, disclosure would not satisfy any of the conditions for data processing set out in Schedule 2 to the DPA. Therefore, we have concluded that this information is exempt from disclosure under section 40(2) of the FOIA, and therefore it has been redacted.

In keeping with the spirit and effect of the FOIA, and in keeping with the government's Transparency Agenda, all information is assumed to be releasable to the public unless exempt. Therefore, the information released to you will now be published on www.gov.uk together with any related information that will provide a key to its wider context. Please note that this will not include your personal data.

I attach Annex A, which explains the copyright that applies to the information being released to you.

I also attach Annex B giving contact details should you be unhappy with the service you have received.

If you have any queries about this letter, please contact me.

Yours

[REDACTED]

E: [REDACTED]

Annex A

Copyright

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Annex B

Complaints

If you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request you may make a complaint or appeal against our decision under section 17(7) of the FOIA or under regulation 18 of the EIRs, as applicable, within 40 working days of the date of this letter. Please write to Mike Kaye, Head of Information Standards, Area 4D, Nobel House, 17 Smith Square, London, SW1P 3JR (email: requestforinfo@defra.gsi.gov.uk) and he will arrange for an internal review of your case. Details of Defra's complaints procedure are on our [website](#).

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, section 50 of the FOIA and regulation 18 of the EIRs gives you the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. Please note that generally the Information Commissioner cannot make a decision unless you have first exhausted Defra's own complaints procedure. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

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