

helpline@defra.gsi.gov.uk www.defra.gov.uk

Our ref: RFI 5512 **Date:** 20th June 2012

Dear _____,

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION: CORRESPONDENCE AND MEETINGS HELD BETWEEN DEFRA AND THE PRINCE OF WALES/CLARENCE HOUSE/DUCHY OF CORNWALL ON THE PILOT BADGER CULLS

Thank you for your request for information about correspondence between Defra and the Prince of Wales, Clarence House and the Duchy of Cornwall over the planned pilot badger culls, which we received on 22nd May 2013. As you know, we have handled your request under the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 (EIRs).

The EIRs apply to requests for environmental information, which is a broad category of information defined in regulation 2 of the EIRs. Public authorities are required to handle requests for environmental information under the EIRs. They give similar access rights to the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

Following a search of our paper and electronic records, I have established that the information that you have requested is not held by Defra. No correspondence has been exchanged and no meetings have taken relating to the pilot badger culls.

I attach an annex giving contact details should you be unhappy with the service you have received.

If you have any queries about this letter, please get in touch.

Yours sincerely,

TB Programme





<u>Annex</u>

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