



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs

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www.gov.uk/defra

Our ref: RFI 6424
Date: 25th March 2014

Dear [REDACTED]

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION: NUMBER OF LAMBS SLAUGHTERED BY FOXES

Thank you for your request for information about the number of lambs estimated to have been lost to predation by foxes in Wales, Scotland & England in each of the last 3 Years, 2011-2013 inclusive, which we received by email on 19th March 2014. We are handling your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

I can confirm that there are no official statistics in England, Scotland and Wales on the number of lambs lost to predation by foxes during this time.

We are looking into issues raised by some livestock farmers regarding the predation of lambs by foxes and the use of dogs for flushing out for pest control purposes. The Government recognises that this issue continues to raise strong views on both sides of the debate. No conclusions have been reached.

Any variations to the exemptions set out in the Hunting Act 2004 can only be made by an order approved by affirmative resolution of each House of Parliament.

If you have any queries about this letter please contact us at rural.communities@defra.gsi.gov.uk

Yours,

Defra, Rural FOI Team



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