



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs

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

[redacted]

Our ref: RFI 5679
Date: 19 August 2013

Dear [redacted]

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION: Any information relating to the application/grant of a licence for an English circus to use big cats

Thank you for your request for information about any information relating to the application/grant of a licence for an English circus to use big cats, which we received on the 22nd and subsequently 24th July. As you know, we have handled your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

I enclose the following information you requested:

In accordance with Condition 1 (Acquisition of wild animals) of the licensing conditions of the Welfare of Wild Animals in Travelling Circuses (England) Regulations 2012 (the 'Regulations'), we were formally notified by Jolly's Circus on 11th July 2013 of their intention to acquire 2 lions and 4 tigers for use in their travelling circus. Jolly's Circus are already in receipt of a licence to use wild animals.

The 2 lions and 4 tigers subsequently joined Jolly's circus on 7th August at Leyburn, North Yorkshire. An inspection of the Circus and the 6 big cats was undertaken at that site by a Defra appointed inspector under the Regulations on 8th August.

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 us.

Yours sincerely

Circus Animal Legislation Team

Annex A

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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