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for Environment  
Food & Rural Affairs

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Our ref: RFI 5597  
Date: 23 July 2013

[redacted]  
Via Email

Dear [redacted]

**REQUEST FOR INFORMATION:** On evidence provided in connection to the amendment of Stilton Cheese PDO technical file provided by the [redacted].

Thank you for your request for information regarding the evidence provided in connection to the amendment of Stilton Cheese PDO technical file which we received on 27 June 2013. As you know, we have handled your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA). I am attaching a representative sample of communication relating to your request. This sample has been chosen specifically to illustrate the evidence used by [redacted] in applying to amend the Stilton Cheese PDO technical file.

Where there is personal information in these documents they have been redacted in accordance with s. 40 in the FOIA. We have decided that this information should be withheld under section 40(2) (third party personal data) of the FOIA, as the information constitutes personal data relating to Section 40(2) of the FOIA. This 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.

Some of these documents include commercially sensitive information which has been redacted; this has been withheld under s.43 of the Act. This is a qualified exemption subject to the Public interest test and in this case we consider that the commercial activities will be adversely affected by disclosure.

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](http://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]*

*[redacted]*

T: *[redacted]*

## **Annex A**

### Copyright

The information supplied to you continues to be protected by copyright. You are free to use it for your own purposes, including for private study and non-commercial research, and for any other purpose authorised by an exception in current copyright law. Documents (except photographs or logos) can be also used in the UK without requiring permission for the purposes of news reporting. Any other re-use, for example commercial publication, would require the permission of the copyright holder.

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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](mailto: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