



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs

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

Your ref:
Our ref: RFI 6344
Date: 27/02/14

Dear [REDACTED],

**REQUEST FOR INFORMATION: STEPS TAKEN IN THE REVIEW OF FOOD AID
REPORT PRIOR TO PUBLICATION**

Thank you for your request for information about the actions and steps taken under the review and quality assurance process for the report “Household food security in the UK – a review of food aid”, which we received on 30 January 2014. We have handled your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA). I enclose a copy of the information you requested.

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]



Information requested:

The purpose of this response is to provide you with information regarding the steps taken as part of the review and quality assurance process for the research report “Household food security in the UK – a review of food aid”.

The work was commissioned by Defra in February 2013, having been put out to open competition online in December 2012.

All Government research reports are required to go through an appropriate review and quality assurance process prior to publication. The purpose of this process is to provide assurance that the work and the evidence that underpins it has been thoroughly considered by relevant parties. A draft of the report was submitted to the Department in June 2013, and the iterative review process was carried out between June 2013 and February 2014. This process included external academic peer review and consideration across Government Departments, with any comments or requests for clarification submitted back to the research team for consideration. The final version of the report was agreed on 19 February 2014.

This process has now been completed, and as a result on the 20 February 2014 the work was published on the Government’s website at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/food-aid-research-report>

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