



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs

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

Our ref: RFI 5866
Date: 24th October 2013

Dear Ms Allan

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION: LIST OF MEETINGS BETWEEN DEFRA AND ANY EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS RELATING TO BEES AND/OR POLLINATORS

Thank you for your request for information about a list of meetings between Defra and any external party which we received on 1st October 2013. As you know, we have handled your request under Environmental Information Regulations 2004 (EIRs). (N.B. Part 1a to 1f of your request will be answered by a separate Division within Defra who are responsible for pesticides and chemicals policy).

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).

The information you requested is as follows:

A list of meetings that took place between 1 June 2013 and 1 October 2013, between Defra and any external party on the subject of, or containing:

A) 'bee' or 'bees'

- 03/6/13 – Bee Health Advisory Forum 4th meeting
- 28/6/13 – Friends of the Earth Bee Health Summit
- 01/07/13 – Follow-up to Friends of the Earth Bee Health Summit
- 12/07/13 - Bee Health Advisory Forum 5th meeting
- 19/07/13 – Bee Farmers Association



02/08/13 - Bee Health Advisory Forum – Apiculture Programme meeting
30/08/13 - Bee Farmers Association
27/09/13 - Bee Farmers Association

B) 'pollinator' or 'pollinators'

04/06/13 – 1st meeting of Pollinators Expert Advisory Group
12/06/13 – Friends of the Earth/Defra pollinators meeting
13/06/13 – UK Butterfly Monitoring Scheme Steering Group
04/07/13 – 2nd meeting of Pollinators Expert Advisory Group
05/07/13 – UK Biodiversity Indicator Forum
08/07/13 – England Biodiversity Stakeholder Group
23/07/13 - UK Biodiversity Indicators Steering Group
05/08/13 – 3rd meeting of Pollinators Expert Advisory Group
14/08/13 - Friends of the Earth/Defra pollinators meeting
28/08/13 – Update meeting on CEH activity and plans
10-12/09/13 – September 2013 European preparatory meeting for the 17th meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice of the Convention of Biological Diversity
12/09/13 - Meeting to discuss the potential for developing a pollinator package
16/09/13 – Friends of the Earth participated in a stakeholder mapping workshop
17/09/13 – POSTNote launch – Halting Insect Pollinator Declines
23/09/13 - Species assessments workshop
24/09/13 – 4th meeting of Pollinators Expert Advisory Group
26/09/13 - Friends of the Earth/Defra pollinators meeting
03/10/13 - Friends of the Earth/Defra pollinators meeting
18/10/13 – Defra officials attended the FoE Advisory Group meeting

In keeping with the spirit and effect of the EIRs, 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 Sincerely

Marie Holmes

T: 01904 462000

F: 01904 462250

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