



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs

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REQUEST FOR INFORMATION: Information requests received by Defra and executive agencies

I am replying to your of letter of 5 February 2014, which asked for numbers of information requests received by Defra and its executive agencies, numbers disclosed in full, and requests specific to badger control/ bovine TB and cattle. We have handled your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

I would like to apologise for the delay in responding, which was due to the request being overlooked as a result of staff shortages. Defra takes its responsibilities to answer information requests within 20 working days very seriously, and we are sorry that on this occasion we were unable to do so.

I have attached the information at Annex C in the form of a table which shows requests for the core department and its executive agencies combined. I hope you find this useful. Please contact me if you need any further information.

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.

Yours sincerely

Guy Mawhinney

FOIA/EIRs Case Officer

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

Annex C

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Total info requests received	1341	1223	1447	1394	1616
Disclosed in full	852 (64%)	750 (61%)	790 (55%)	749 (54%)	776 (48%)
Requests on badgers/BTB/ etc.	33	43	52	75	164
Badger etc. requests disclosed in full	29 (88%)	26 (60%)	38 (73%)	46 (61%)	87 (53%)
Requests on cattle industry not related to TB	29	33	21	17	24