



Department  
for Environment  
Food & Rural Affairs

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

██████████  
████████████████████

**Our ref:** RFI6591  
**Date:** 2 June 2014

Dear ██████████

### **REQUEST FOR INFORMATION: Badger Gassing Research**

Thank you for your request for information about badger gassing research carried out prior to, which we received on 16 May. We have handled your request under the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 (EIRs).

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).

You asked us for “...*details of the practical testing and computational assessments that were undertaken by DEFRA into the subject of humane badger control through use of gas*”.

Research was carried out on gassing artificial setts in 2006-2007, which ended inconclusively. The research was not pursued further as a decision was taken by the previous administration not to cull badgers in 2008. No animals were used in this research.

All five of these reports and a cover paper on gassing, alongside assessments of other culling methods, were published on the Defra website in 2008 and can be found here: <http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/20081107201922/http://defra.gov.uk/animalh/tb/abouttb/badgers.htm>

I attach an annex giving contact details should you be unhappy with the service that you have received.

If you have any queries about this letter, please contact me.

Yours,



Defra TB Programme

[Ccu.correspondence@defra.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:Ccu.correspondence@defra.gsi.gov.uk)

## **Annex**

### **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