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Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs

T: 03459 33 55 77 or
08459 33 55 77
helpline@defra.gsi.gov.uk
www.gov.uk/defra

Your ref:
Our ref: RFI 6995
Date: 17 December 2014

Dear

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION: British Bee Keeping Association

Thank you for your request for information, which we received on 4 November, about payments made to the British Bee Keeping Association. We have interpreted this as meaning the British Beekeepers Association (BBKA). As you know, we have handled your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA). I apologise for the delay in responding.

You asked how much the Food and Environment Research Agency (Fera) and Defra gave the BBKA this year and last year and, if it was split into categories, how much was given for each separate category.

Defra made no payments to the BBKA in financial years 2012/13 or 2013/14. Fera is an executive agency of Defra and, as such, the information was not held by Defra at the time your request was received. However, noting your interest in this area and having made further enquiries we are able to confirm that Fera made payments to the BBKA through the Healthy Bees Plan, the majority of which was for educational activities. These payments totalled £36,091 in 2012/13 and £32,400 in 2013/14.

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 the address below.

Yours sincerely,

Defra FOIA and EIRs Team



InformationRequests@defra.qsi.gov.uk

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