



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs

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

Our ref: RFI 6793
Date: 20 August 2014

Dear [REDACTED],

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION: IEP recommendation

Thank you for your request for information about the recommendations of the IEP report, which we received on 25 July. 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 the following questions:

- 1. [...] provide me with a full account of the clarification which Defra provided to BVA [...]**

The nature of the clarification provided by Defra to the BVA can be found in the second item of the BVA's policy statement on the second year of culling:

http://www.bva.co.uk/public/documents/BVA_position_on_bovine_TB_and_badger_culling_in_the_pilot_areas_July_2014.pdf

- 2. [...] I would like to received full details about the role of the independent auditor referred to in the BVA statement, including how and by whom the auditor will be selected, what data the auditor will be provided with and by whom, what will be required of the auditor in terms of independent analysis of data and associated recommendations, and how and when this information will be placed in the public domain.**



INVESTORS
IN PEOPLE

An independent auditor will be in place, appointed by Defra, to monitor the collection and handling of monitoring data during this year's cull. The auditor will have access to all the relevant humaneness and effectiveness data collected by AHVLA and Natural England over the course of culling this year. As with last year the results of monitoring and other data will be made publicly available once analysis has been completed.

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 the address below.

Yours sincerely,

Defra FOIA and EIRs Team
informationrequests@defra.gsi.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