



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](http://www.gov.uk/defra)

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
(via email only)

**Our ref:** RFI 6705  
**Date:** 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2014

Dear [REDACTED],

**REQUEST FOR INFORMATION: Marine Conservation Zones (MCZs)**

Thank you for your request for information about the designation process for the tranche one MCZs with regards to Habitat Regulation Assessments and designated MCZ management measures, which we received on 27<sup>th</sup> June 2014. As you know we have handled your request under the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 (EIRs).

Within your request, you asked:

“(a) Were HRAs under Reg. 61 of The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010 (as amended) undertaken for each one of the 27 MCZs prior to their designation in 2013?”

In response to the information requested we can confirm that there were no habitat regulation assessments carried out under regulation 61 of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010 in relation to MCZs being designated.

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](http://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

[REDACTED]

E: [REDACTED]

## 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](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