



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs

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

Your ref:
Our ref: RFI 6684
Date: 27 June 2014

Dear [REDACTED]

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION: CROP LICENSING

Thank you for your request for information about crops that require a license, which we received on 5 June. We have handled your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

The only crop which we are aware of which requires a licence for cultivation is hemp. You may find the following [link](#) to the gov.uk website helpful. Further information can be obtained from the Home Office. To find their contact details please click on the link to the Home Office page.

Under current UK legislation, a grower of tobacco does not need a specific licence, approval or authorisation from HMRC unless they are manufacturing the tobacco into an excisable product (cigarette, hand-rolling tobacco, cigar, etc).

If they use that tobacco to produce an excisable product, even if it is for their own personal use only, they must be registered as a registered tobacco factory and pay the excise duty on any tobacco manufactured.

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 me.

Yours sincerely

A black rectangular redaction box covering the signature area.

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