



Department  
for Environment  
Food & Rural Affairs

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Your ref:  
Our ref: RFI 7011  
Date: 8 January 2015

**REQUEST FOR INFORMATION: EU Funding for UK Bees and Beekeeping in 2012/13 and 2013/14**

Thank you for your request for information, which we received on 11 November 2014, about EU funding for UK bees and beekeeping. As you know, 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).

I enclose a copy of the following information:

- Two tables containing allocation figures for EU funding of the UK Apiculture Programme and UK involvement in the Epilobee project. An explanatory note is included with each.

**Please note that the Apiculture Programme figures provided for Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland are based on predicted allocations and do not represent the final amounts provided. Each Devolved Administration should be approached individually for exact end of year figures.**

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 the address below.

Yours sincerely,

**Defra FOIA and EIRs Team**  
[InformationRequests@defra.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:InformationRequests@defra.gsi.gov.uk)



## Annex A

### Copyright

The information supplied to you continues to be protected by copyright. You are free to use it for your own purposes, including for private study and non-commercial research, and for any other purpose authorised by an exception in current copyright law. Documents (except photographs or logos) can be also used in the UK without requiring permission for the purposes of news reporting. Any other re-use, for example commercial publication, would require the permission of the copyright holder.

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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

## Apiculture Programme

Country	Apiculture Funding	
	2012_13 (£)	2013_14 (£)
England	463503	335068
Wales*	102971	79549
Scotland*	81696	52550
Northern Ireland*	18740	14945

This table provides figures for the EU's allocation of funding to the UK Apiculture Programme. We do not have a detailed breakdown of how the EU funds were spent as these figures amount to only a percentage of the UK's total apiculture costs. Money received under the apiculture programme is match-funded by the relevant authority.

**\*Figures provided for Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland are based on predicted values submitted to the EU Commission and do not represent the final amounts provided. Each Devolved Administration should be approached individually for exact end of year figures.**

Measures eligible for funding as listed in Council Regulation (EC) No 1234/2007 include:

- i) Technical assistance to beekeepers and groupings of beekeepers;
- ii) Control of varroasis;
- iii) Rationalisation of transhumance;
- iv) Measures so support laboratories carrying out analyses of the physico-chemical properties of honey;
- v) Measures to support the restocking of hives in the Community;
- vi) Cooperation with specialised bodies for the implementation of applied research programmes in the field of beekeeping and apiculture products.

## Epilobee Project

DA	Epilobee Project	
	2012_13 (€)	2013_14 (€)
England and Wales	170009	N/A

This table provides figures for the EU's contribution to the UK's programme of work under the EU Epilobee project. Only England and Wales took part in this project. This was a voluntary surveillance programme organised by the EURL for bee health. It sought to collect baseline data on colony losses and honey bee health across EU member states. Neither England nor Wales took part in year 2013/2014.