



# Rural Payments Agency

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**13 November 2015**  
**Ref: RFI 3845**

Dear [REDACTED]

## **Re: Environmental Information Regulations – Information Request**

Thank you for your request for information dated 4 November 2015 which has been dealt with under Environmental Information Regulations (EIR) 2004.

To answer your questions:

- 1. Has the RPA established a link between [REDACTED] and the Stody Estate, the recipient of public money in the form of the Single Payment Scheme and Environmental Stewardship?**

The Rural Payments Agency (RPA) has notified the Stody Estate in Norfolk that a cross compliance breach occurred, as result of the actions of their gamekeeper. This is because the estate is vicariously liable for the actions of their employees. *Under European cross compliance rules, the RPA is obliged to follow-up reports of cross compliance breaches brought to its attention. The rates of applicable reductions are explained in the [scheme rules](#).*

- 2. Has the RPA concluded whether [REDACTED] actions constitute a breach of cross compliance rules?**

The RPA has concluded that a breach of farmer requirement A1, of the pre-2015 Statutory Management Requirement 1 (Wild birds), has occurred.

The requirement reads “You must not intentionally kill, injure or take any wild bird”.

- 3. Has the RPA imposed a penalty on the public funding the Stody Estate receives through the Single Payment Scheme and Environmental Stewardship and if so, how much?**

The financial amount has yet to be confirmed, however the penalty is 75% of the Single Payment Scheme payments made to the Estate in 2014.

If you are not happy with the way we have handled your request, you can ask for an internal review. These requests should be submitted within two months of the date of receipt of the response to your original letter and should be addressed to: Access to Information, Rural Payments Agency, North Gate House, 21-23 Valpy Street, Reading, RG1 1AF.

If you have any queries about this let us know.

Yours sincerely

**Access to Information Helpdesk**