



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs

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www.gov.uk/defra

Our ref: RFI 7849

23 November 2015

Dear [REDACTED]

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION: BADGER CULL 2015 TESTING

Thank you for your request for information, which we received on 15 October 2015, asking if any tests or post mortems were undertaken on badgers during the 2015 badger cull and whether any showed evidence of visible lesions. We have interpreted your request as referring to lesions caused by bovine TB.

We have handled your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) and apologize for the delay in replying to you.

No badgers were tested for TB or examined specifically for TB lesions during the 2015 culls. A small number of carcasses from badgers culled by controlled shooting in Dorset underwent post-mortem examination to assess rifle injuries. As this type of post-mortem examination was not designed to look for TB lesions the information that you have requested as to whether any badgers showed evidence of visible lesions is not held.

Information disclosed in response to this FOIA request is releasable to the public. In keeping with the spirit and effect of the FOIA and the government's Transparency Agenda, this letter and the information disclosed to you may be placed on GOV.UK, together with any related information that will provide a key to its wider context. No information identifying you will be placed on the GOV.UK website.

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,

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Defra FOIA and EIRs Team
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InformationRequests@defra.gsi.gov.uk



Annex A

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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 [REDACTED] Head of Information Standards, Area 4D, Nobel House, 17 Smith Square, London, SW1P 3JR (email: InformationRequests@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