



Department  
for Environment  
Food & Rural Affairs

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08459 33 55 77  
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[www.gov.uk/defra](http://www.gov.uk/defra)

Our ref: RFI 7366  
13 April 2015

Dear [REDACTED]

## **REQUEST FOR INFORMATION: Culled Badger Numbers 1975 to 1998**

Thank you for your request for information, which we received on 16 March 2015, about the number of badgers culled between 1975 and 1998 (inclusive). 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).

Your question and our response are below.

**‘Martin Hancox wrote an article in the Wiltshire Times stating that between 1975 and 2005 53,130 badger were tested for infection with Bovine TB and that 6,123 badgers showed as positive to the disease.**

**I know that during the RBCT approximately 11,000 badgers were caught and tested, could you send me references or information as to where the other 40,000 were from?’**

We do not know which sources the article referred to and so we are providing a link (below) that provides information in respect of the alternative request for data in your email about badgers culled prior to the RBCT:

<http://collections.europarchive.org/tna/20090104005811/http://defra.gov.uk/animalh/tb/stats/other.htm> (includes data relating to badger carcasses where the cause of death was classified as being due to road traffic accidents)

Information disclosed in response to this EIRs request is releasable to the public. In keeping with the spirit and effect of the EIRs and the government's Transparency Agenda, this letter and the information disclosed to you may be placed on [GOV.UK](http://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.



INVESTORS  
IN PEOPLE

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.

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

**Defra FOIA and EIRs Team**

[Redacted]

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