



Ministry of Defence

Secretariat
Defence Infrastructure Organisation
Kingston Road
Sutton Coldfield
B75 7RL

E-mail: diosec-parli@mod.gov.uk
www.gov.uk/DIO

21 August 2018

Ref. FOI 2018/10090

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for your email of 27 July 2018 requesting the following information:

- 1 - Is the Ministry of Defence allowing the licensed control of badgers (better known as the badger cull) to take place on its land in 2018? If so, which counties will this affect?*
- 2 - Has the ministry of Defence submitted and badger sett surveys to DEFRA, Natural England or the National Farmers Union?*
- 3 - Does the Ministry of Defence have any policy regarding the licensed control of badgers?*

I am treating your correspondence as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

A search for the information has now been completed within the Ministry of Defence (MOD) and I can confirm that some information in scope of your request is held.

The information you have requested can be found below:

1. I can confirm the MOD is supporting the Government's strategy for the control of Bovine TB by allowing the culling of badgers on the MOD estate in 2018. This activity is being overseen by DEFRA and has been licensed by Natural England (NE). In March 2018 the opportunity to comment (OTC) exercise was run by NE in counties across the High Risk and Edge Areas where badger control licences have been applied for or expressions of interest have been received, some of which include MOD land and was published on the Government website. A summary of the responses received can be found on the following website:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/712852/badger-control-licence-otc-summary-2018.pdf

2. No information in scope of your request is held.

3. As a Government Department the MOD is following Government policy on the licensed control of badgers.

If you have any queries regarding the content of this letter, please contact this office in the first instance.

If you wish to complain about the handling of your request, or the content of this response, you can request an independent internal review by contacting the Information Rights Compliance team, Ground Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB (e-mail CIO-FOI-IR@mod.gov.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review should be made in writing within 40 working days of the date of this response.

If you remain dissatisfied following an internal review, you may raise your complaint directly to the Information Commissioner under the provisions of Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act. Please note that the Information Commissioner will not normally investigate your case until the MOD internal review process has been completed. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF. Further details of the role and powers of the Information Commissioner can be found on the Commissioner's website at <https://ico.org.uk/>.

Yours sincerely,

DIO Secretariat