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[Redacted]

By email: [Redacted]

Our ref: FOI2020/27094
9 November 2020

Dear [Redacted] ,

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION: Badger Control Policing

Thank you for your request for information of October 2020 about the estimated reduction in net benefit in badger control policing. We have handled part 1 of your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA). We have handled part 2 of your request under general correspondence as it does not amount to a request for recorded information but instead questions a methodology.

Your request for information and our response are set out below;

- 1. Please disclose Defra's estimated reduction in net benefit per licensed area, in the central case, for 2020, in the scenario that Defra continues to incur policing costs over the next four years and potential efficiency gains are not realised.*

In the scenario that we continue to incur policing costs over the next four years and potential efficiency gains are not realised (i.e. we continue to incur costs at 2019 estimated levels, a worst case scenario), we estimate that this would reduce the net benefit per licensed area by £169,000 in the central case (from £449,000 to £280,000).

Your enquiry and our response to is part 2 set out below;

- 2. Please explain why this estimated reduction in net benefit per licensed area is not included in Defra's Badger control policy: value for money analysis 2020.*

It was not felt necessary to include an estimated reduction in net benefit per licensed area as the policing costs and the assumed efficiency gains are already stated clearly elsewhere in the document.

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.

We attach Annex A, explaining the copyright that applies to the information being released to you, and 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

[Redacted]

Information Rights Team

InformationRequests@defra.gov.uk

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 11 of the EIRs, as applicable, within 40 working days of the date of this letter.

Please write to ^[Redacted], Head of Information Rights via email at InformationRequests@defra.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's Office (ICO) for a decision. Please note that generally the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have first exhausted Defra's own complaints procedure.

The ICO's offices are currently closed so please visit their website on how to contact them during this period, here:

<https://ico.org.uk>