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Our ref: FOI2020/32362
7 January 2021

Dear [Redacted]

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION: Defra's external legal costs in relation to the badger cull

Thank you for your request for information of 5th December about Defra's external legal costs in relation to the badger cull. We have handled your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

Your information request and our response are set out below.

Please disclose Defra's external legal costs in relation to the badger cull for the following years:

2014-15
2015-16
2016-17
2017-18
2018-19
2019-20

Please see the table below that contains the information you have requested regarding Defra's external legal costs in relation to the badger cull:

Financial Year	External Legal Costs
2014-15	£15,640.00
2015-16	-
2016-17	£420.00
2017-18	£810.00
2018-19	£45,931.50
2019-20	£18,591.01
Total	£81,392.51

Please note that costs for some cases are subject to calculation and/or have been ordered to be paid by other parties to litigation and therefore will be subject to change.

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](https://www.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 me.

Yours sincerely

[Redacted]

Information Rights Team

InformationRequests@defra.gov.uk

Annex A

Copyright

The information supplied to you continues to be protected by copyright. You are free to use it for your own purposes, including for private study and non-commercial research, and for any other purpose authorised by an exception in current copyright law. Documents (except photographs or logos) can be also used in the UK without requiring permission for the purposes of news reporting. Any other re-use, for example commercial publication, would require the permission of the copyright holder.

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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>

Additionally if you wish to make a complaint to the ICO please use the following link:

<https://ico.org.uk/make-a-complaint/official-information-concerns-report/official-information-concern/>