



Rural Payments Agency

7 February 2023
Our ref: RFI 6429

Dear [REDACTED],

Environmental Information Regulations – Information Request

We refer to your request for information dated 8 December 2022, which we have dealt with under the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 (EIR).

Please accept our sincere apologies for the delay in providing you with a full response.

You have requested:

Details of grants and subsidy payments made by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs and all relevant predecessor bodies since 1 January 2000, to a) the Duchy of Lancaster, b) the Duchy of Cornwall, c) Sandringham estate, Norfolk, d) Gatcombe Park Estate, Hampton Fields, Minchinhampton, GL6 9AT, and e) Royal Farms which incorporate land in Windsor, Sunninghill and Bagshot.

You further specified:

For the avoidance of doubt, please include payments to any land holdings or locations where the applicant or recipient is named as one of the entities listed above.

Please list those payments, for each entity separately, by:

a) financial year since 2000

b) title or type of subsidy and/or grant, and

c) for each type of subsidy and/or grant, the total payments for that year

d) the landholding, geographic location or site name to which the payment applies (i.e. the river or water catchment, a specific nature conservation site, such as an SSSI or SPA, or a block of forestry with a specific name, please state which)

Such payments could include, but not exclusively, funds such as the natural environment investment readiness fund, peatland restoration, flood management, water quality and Catchment Sensitive Farming grants.

For instance the Duchy of Lancaster notes that in 2017 it signed a five-year Countryside Stewardship Higher Tier agreement with Natural England; the Duchy of Lancaster also owns land covered by conservation designations including Sites of Special Scientific Interest.

The Duchy of Cornwall notes it has, amongst a wide range of nature conservation projects across its estates, made a successful bid to the UK government's Nature for Climate Fund in partnership with the Environment Agency and other stakeholders.

Please find the information you have requested which is held by the RPA in the attached annexes.

Our response covers the following subsidy schemes administered by the Rural Payments Agency (RPA) under the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) or financial assistance provided under the Agriculture Act 2020 in the date range 2000-2022, with payment details provided for the years in parenthesis:

Arable Area Payment Scheme (2000-2004)
Beef Special Premium Scheme (2000-2004)
Extensification Payment Scheme (2000-2004)
Sheep Annual Premium Scheme (2000-2004)
Slaughter Premium Scheme (2000-2004)
Suckler Cow Premium Scheme (2000-2002)
Single Payment Scheme (2005-2014)
Dairy Fund (2015-2016)
English Woodland Grant Scheme (2015-2022)
Basic Payment Scheme (2015-2022)
Woodland Improvement (2018-2022)
Farm Woodland Scheme (2015-2022)
Countryside Stewardship (2017-2022)
Environmental Stewardship (2007-2021)

The information provided by scheme year is for all payments made from 1 January to 31 December.

The information provided by financial year is for all payments made from 1 April to 31 March.

Different data sources have been used, which is why some information is provided by scheme year and some by financial year.

The figures provided may differ slightly to those released following previous requests as the data used for this request is now more complete than was available previously. This information supersedes any information previously received for these entities.

The Farm Environment Plan, Capital Works and Alignment payments are all stand alone Environmental Stewardship payments which are not allocated to a particular scheme year but are attached to particular agreements.

To advise, the payment details for the Basic Payment Scheme and Single Payment Scheme in Annex 3 are the totals of payments made to both Sandringham and Balmoral Estates, as both Estates were 'Cross Border' claims in the date ranges listed. The link below provides further detail on Cross Border claims: -

[Basic Payment Scheme rules 2020 \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](#) - page 111

The information provided for the remaining payments are for those made to Sandringham Estates.

With regard to part d) of your query, '*the landholding, geographic location or site name to which the payment applies (i.e. the river or water catchment, a specific nature conservation site, such as an SSSI or SPA, or a block of forestry with a specific name, please state which*': -

This information has been provided at scheme level for Environmental Stewardship and Countryside Stewardship. This means that where a land designation is listed, it is on land which is or was part of an agreement for that entity.

Also, there are different requirements for Environmental Stewardship and Countryside Stewardship in recording this information. For Countryside Stewardship, it is not necessary for the name of the area the designation is in to be recorded.

Annex A below explains the copyright that applies to the information being released to you.

What you need to do

If you are not happy with the way we have handled your request, you can ask for an internal review. These requests should be submitted in writing within two months of the date of receipt of the response to your original request. You should email your request for a review to IRT@rpa.gov.uk

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have 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 RPA's own complaints procedure. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: [Information Commissioner's Office](#), Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF.

If you need further information

If you have any questions about this email, you can contact us by email irt@rpa.gov.uk.

You can find more information on how we handle personal data in our [Personal Information Charter](#) and [RPA Customer Privacy notices](#) on [GOV.UK](#)

Yours sincerely

Information Rights Team

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