



Rural Payments Agency

2 August 2023
Our ref: RFI 6640

Dear [REDACTED],

Environmental Information Regulations – Information Request

We refer to your request for information dated 4 July which we have dealt with under the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 (EIR)

You have asked for the grazing numbers captured in all environmental scheme contracts in place on Dartmoor commons - stating which commons are in contract.

As advised in our email of 13 July, we have interpreted 'in place' to mean current live agreements and we have proceeded with our searches on this basis.

Please find the information you have requested in the attached Annex A. This contains the requested information for all current live agri-environment scheme agreements for the Dartmoor commons as detailed in your previous request, handled under our reference RFI 6607. All agreements are under the Environmental Stewardship (ES) scheme.

You will note that the data consists of an agreement reference number, the common name and number, and the maximum stocking density for each agreement on each individual common.

In instances where an agreement covers more than one common, this agreement will have multiple rows of data within Annex A to reflect this. We have therefore provided you with a pseudonymised reference number for each agreement, meaning that each agreement has been given the same reference throughout the document.

The maximum stocking density is defined as the total number of allowed Livestock Units (LU) per hectare over the grassland area of the holding. Animal numbers are converted into LUs depending on the animal type and breed. You can find further detail on calculating the maximum stocking density, and converting animal numbers into Livestock Units, on page 84 of the attached Annex B. This document, the 4th edition Higher Level Stewardship (HLS) handbook, can also be found at the link below.

<https://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/file/2819648>

We also attach Annex A below, explaining the copyright that applies to the information being released to you.

What you need to do

If you have any queries regarding the data that we have provided, please contact us using the details below to provide a contact telephone number and one of the team would be happy to contact you to discuss your request.

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 by following the link to the Information Commissioner's website [here](#).

They can also be contacted at: The Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF.

Please note that generally the Information Commissioner cannot make a decision unless you have first exhausted RPA's own complaints procedure.

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

Rural Payments Agency | Eden Bridge House | Lowther Street | Carlisle | CA3 8DX

Tel: 03300 416502 | **Email:** IRT@rpa.gov.uk

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