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[Redacted]

By email: [Redacted]

Our ref: FOI2023_25528
17 January 2023

Dear [Redacted]

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION: Hereford Cattle Breeding Program and society rules

Thank you for your request for information of 20 December 2023 about the Hereford Cattle Breeding Programme and society rules. We have handled your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

Your information request and our response are set out below.

The Defra Approved Breeding Programme for the Hereford Breed

The information you have requested has been published and is available at the link below:

[Hereford Cattle Society Breeding Programme - Zotech \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://publishing.service.gov.uk)

As the information is reasonably accessible to you by other means, section 21 of the FOIA exempts Defra from providing a copy of the information with this response to your request.

The date of approval of the breeding programme where the caretakers for the breed are the Hereford Cattle Society Company Limited by Guarantee.

The breeding programme for the Hereford cattle was approved on 1 January 2015 as detailed in the published list of recognised bovine societies which can be found at the link below:

[Recognised breed societies for bovine species - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk)

The DEFRA approved rules of procedure for the Hereford Cattle Society CLG including the Article 18(1) Breeder request process, the Article 30(1) Breeder request process, the timely transmission of zootechnical certificates under Article 30(3), the validated "clearly established rules of procedure and described rights and duties of breeders. This is best achieved if the disputes are settled within the legal system of the Member State where they arise." therefore the dispute resolution procedures for the breeders participating in the breeding programme.

The Hereford Cattle Society rules can be found at the link below:

<https://www.herefordcattle.org/rules/#:~:text=Bulls%20should%20be%20genetically%20tested,the%20discretion%20of%20the%20council>

The rules covering the issuing of export Zotech certificates can be found at rule 42. Rules on the settlement of disputes at Rule 57. Rules covering the rights and duties of breeders can be found throughout the rules. The rules do not discriminate against breeders and allow



for all eligible pedigree animals to be entered into the herd book, regardless of membership status or country of origin.

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

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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 can be contacted using the following link:

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