



Animal &  
Plant Health  
Agency

Animal and Plant Health Agency  
Information Rights Team  
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Surrey  
KT15 3NB

informationrights@apha.gov.uk

[www.gov.uk/apha](http://www.gov.uk/apha)

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Our ref: EIR2026/16849  
14 September 2026

Dear [REDACTED]

## **REQUEST FOR INFORMATION: Fiunary Fish Farm**

Thank you for your request for information of 1st August about Fiunary Fish Farm. APHA have handled your request under the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 (EIRs).

The EIRs apply to requests for environmental information, which is a broad category of information defined in regulation 2 of the EIRs. Public authorities are required to handle requests for environmental information under the EIRs. They give similar access rights to the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

Your information request and our response are set out below.

“Re: Scottish Sea Farms site known as Fiunary.

I am here making an EIR request to APHA about the farm asking for copies of any communications between APHA and the operators about the site, including copies of any WF77 and WF152 forms, since 1<sup>st</sup> June 2026, including records of any telephone conversations about the farm. Also copies of any communication between yourselves and FHI about the site in that period.”

Please see the information held by APHA at Appendices 1 and 2.

Please note that certain information contained within the appendices has been withheld under Regulations 12(3), 13(1) and 13(2A) (Personal Information) of the Environmental Regulations 2004. Further details are provided below.

### **Regulation 13 - Personal Information**

The information requested has been reviewed and disclosed where held. Certain information has been redacted because it constitutes personal data relating to third parties. In accordance with Regulation 12(3) of the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 (EIR), personal data must be considered under Regulation 13.

APHA has applied Regulation 13(1) and 13(2A) of the EIR because disclosure of the redacted information would contravene the first data protection principle set out in Article 5(1)(a) UK GDPR, which requires personal data to be processed lawfully, fairly and transparently.

APHA is an Executive Agency of the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs and also works on behalf of the Scottish Government, Welsh Government and Food Standards Agency to safeguard animal and plant health for the benefit of people, the environment and the economy.

The redacted information consists of personal data relating to individuals associated with the premises, legal representatives and APHA staff. These individuals would not reasonably expect their personal information to be disclosed to the public through an EIR request. APHA therefore considers that disclosure would be unfair and unlawful.

As the information is exempt under Regulation 13(1), this is an absolute exception and no public interest test applies.

APHA has considered the public interest in disclosure and recognises the importance of transparency in regulatory decision-making. However, in this case the public interest in maintaining the confidentiality of individuals who report welfare concerns and ensuring the continued flow of information necessary for effective enforcement and animal welfare protection, outweighs the public interest in disclosure.

Information disclosed in response to this EIR request is releasable to the public. In keeping with the spirit and effect of the EIR 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.

An Annex is attached which explains the copyright that applies to the information being released to you and contact details should you be unhappy with the service you have received.

If you have any queries about this letter, please contact us.

Yours sincerely

**APHA Information Rights Team**

[informationrights@apha.gov.uk](mailto:informationrights@apha.gov.uk)

## **Annex**

### **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 also be 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.

Most documents produced by APHA will be protected by Crown Copyright. Most Crown copyright information can be re-used under the [Open Government Licence](#). For information about the OGL and about re-using Crown Copyright information please see [The National Archives website](#).

Copyright in other documents may rest with a third party. For information about obtaining permission from a third party see the [Intellectual Property Office's website](#).

### **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 regulation 11 of the EIRs, as applicable, within 40 working days of the date of this letter. Please write to the Information Rights Team at the address at the top of this letter or email [informationrights@apha.gov.uk](mailto:informationrights@apha.gov.uk) and the team will arrange for an internal review of your case.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, 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 APHA's own complaints procedure.

The ICO can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office  
Wycliffe House  
Water Lane  
Wilmslow  
Cheshire  
SK9 5AF

Please click [here](#) for further contact details.

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: Official Sensitive: Site ID: FS0696 Fiunary Scottish Sea farm  
**Date:** 16 June 2026 11:46:00  
**Attachments:** [image002.png](#)  
[image003.jpg](#)

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Thank you for your prompt reply.

[REDACTED]  
 APHA Perth Field Services

**Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA)**

Telephone: [REDACTED] | Mobile: [REDACTED] | Email: [REDACTED]  
 Website: [www.gov.uk/apha](http://www.gov.uk/apha) | Twitter: [@APHAgovuk](https://twitter.com/APHAgovuk) | Facebook: [APHAgov](https://www.facebook.com/APHAgov)  
 Address: APHA Strathearn House, Broxden Business Park, Lamberkine Drive, Perth PH1 1RX

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**From:** [REDACTED]@gov.scot>  
**Sent:** 16 June 2026 11:25  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: Official Sensitive: Site ID: FS0696 Fiunary Scottish Sea farm

You don't often get email from [REDACTED]@gov.scot. [Learn why this is important](#)

Hi [REDACTED],

Following the first mortality report over 1% in November 2025 for the Fiunary site (FS0696) mortalities were consistently reported from February to April (wks 8-18) between 1.1 – 2.4%, attributed to CMS. Most recently mortality reports at 1.1% were received for weeks 22 and 23 2026 and fish are at an average weight of 5.3kg. Functional health feeds have been used and the site is now destocking through harvest. The site was visited as part of our routine schedule in wk 12 2026 and we have no further plans to visit the site and no current concerns to report to APHA.

Thanks,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Fish Health Inspectorate | Marine Directorate | Scottish Government

Tel: [REDACTED] | Email: [REDACTED]@gov.scot

W: <https://www.gov.scot/marine-and-fisheries/>





The views or opinions contained within this e-mail may not necessarily reflect those of the Scottish Government.

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APHA WIL reference

[CAD Vet log](#) (if applicable)

## Welfare Incident Record and Veterinary Risk Assessment

### Information provided

To be completed in all cases by the person taking the call / email

Report taken by: [REDACTED] Report type: Complaint ☒  
 Date: 04/06/2026 Referral ☐  
 Time call / email received : 17:20 Origin: Select Origin

**For use by CAD/Duty Vet where a suspicion of notifiable disease is being reported by a member of public or if during the course of the call the CAD/Duty vet suspects notifiable disease.**

If notifiable disease suspicion is reported by a PVS or from the premises occupier an EXD40 **must** be completed and VENDU informed.

- Is notifiable disease suspected?  
(by CAD vet/or public)
- What notifiable disease is suspected?
- Duty / RTG vet and VENDU informed of possibility of ND?

Third party reference

Previously reported  
(Yes / No)

Previous APHA  
 reference (incl. FSA  
 referrals):

### Nature of complaint and information provided:

- Number of animals, species, breed,
- premises type
- whether welfare needs being met (feed, water, shelter, bedding etc),
- whether or not animal suffering has been witnessed (injury, distress, etc),
- duration of incident and other relevant information.

(Paste emails containing photos etc. here)

E-mail received highlighting high mortality reported on-line affecting Fiunary farm (FS0696) part of Scottish Sea farms.

Original e-mail below:

"I am contacting you to ask you to investigate welfare concerns at Fiunary fish farm off the south coast of Morvern in the Sound of Mull. The address given for the site is South Sian, Connel PA37 1SB but that must be many miles from the actual farm.

Mortalities in April were reported at 6.6% which is a huge number of fish. These are attributed to viral disease. To be fairly precise, there

### Welfare Category:

Farm ☒  
 Market ☐  
 Slaughter ☐  
 Transport ☐

[OS Map Ref, or  
 w3w location](#)

determined from  
 the informant:

NM592476

were around 65,000 fish reported as dying over a three month period, happening at a fairly steady rate.  
The comment 'destocking through harvest has been made several times during this period.  
It worries me that mortalities continue unabated over such a period. It suggests that the treatment of the fish may not be appropriate. One cannot know what has happened since the first week in May.  
The phrase 'destocking through harvest' is itself worrying. Are these fish with viral disease being harvested for sale?

Best regards

[REDACTED]

**Reported location of animal(s):**

(Details must be sufficient to determine an OS Map Reference. Include OS Grid Finder, CPH viewer, w3w extract etc.)

Site ID: FS0696

Site name:Fiunary

Address: South Shian, Connel, Oban, Argyll PA37 1SB

APHA Delivery  
Team for this  
location:

[Choose an item.](#)

**If the complainant is aware this issue has been reported to other organisations, please record details here:**

FHI aware.

**Note:** Informant details are only used by inspectors to gather further information or to clarify location details

Informant name (do not add full name if informant wishes to remain anonymous):

[REDACTED]

Telephone number 1:

Telephone number 2:

Email:

[REDACTED]

**Veterinary Risk Assessment (VRA)**

To be completed in all cases by an APHA Veterinarian

Likely owner/keeper name and address (include postcode):

FS0696  
Fiunary  
SOUND OF MULL  
Scotland  
PA37 1SB

Likely CPH:

[REDACTED]

Telephone number 1:

[REDACTED]

Telephone number 2:

(Scotland & Wales only) [Active XC claimant?](#) (Yes / No)

NO

(S & W only) SBI/CRN/BRN

n/a

(S & W only) On [current XC selection](#)? (Yes / No)

n/a

Last Sam welfare inspection date (N/A if not applicable):

n/a

Ongoing [Complex case](#)? (Yes / No)

n/a

Sensitive case? (Yes / No)

no

Listed on [Hazard Database](#)? (Yes / No)

no

**Comments and recommended local actions based on available information:**

- Consider number of animals, breed, age, environmental conditions etc.
- Include risks and mitigating factors in a reasoned assessment of whether animal needs were/are now being met and if animal suffering was/now is occurring.
- Refer to the Guidance for Completing the Welfare Incident Record and Veterinary Risk Assessment Form ([WF114](#))

Contact company to get more information regarding virus involved, stage of production and at what stage of harvesting the site is at. Organise a preliminary meeting to assess need for on site visit.

**VRA inspection requirement:** (select one option only)

|                                                                                                                        |                                                                            |                                                                     |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1A - High Immediate, same day <input type="checkbox"/>                                                                 | 2A - Medium Within seven calendar days <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | 3 - Low Within 14 calendar days <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| 1B - High (Food Standards Agency (FSA)/Food Standards Scotland (FSS)) Urgent, within 24 hours <input type="checkbox"/> | 2B - Medium (FSA/FSS) Within seven calendar days <input type="checkbox"/>  | 4 - Negligible No inspection <input type="checkbox"/>               |
| 1C - High Urgent, within 24 hours <input type="checkbox"/>                                                             | 2C - High/Medium (FSA/FSS) <input type="checkbox"/>                        | 5 - Insufficient information No inspection <input type="checkbox"/> |

(For categories 4 & 5 local assessment must also be completed, the form emailed to [CSCOneHealth.WelfareComplaints@apha.gov.uk](mailto:CSCOneHealth.WelfareComplaints@apha.gov.uk) and a note made on Sam if applicable.)

Date inspection required by (N/A if not applicable):

12/06/2026

Veterinarian completing VRA:

[REDACTED]

Uploaded to FARM (England only) (Yes / No)

VRA Date: 08/06/2026

VRA Time: 11:30

**Local Assessment** - To be completed by the local field team

**Are farm details in above VRA considered correct?** (If not, amend below) (Yes / No)

yes

Amended owner/keeper name and address (include postcode):

Amended CPH:

Telephone number 1:

|                                                       |                                                                  |                      |
|-------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|
|                                                       | Telephone number 2:                                              | <input type="text"/> |
|                                                       | (S & W only) <a href="#">Active XC claimant?</a> (Yes / No)      | <input type="text"/> |
|                                                       | (S & W only) SBI/CRN/BRN from <a href="#">CSC database:</a>      | <input type="text"/> |
|                                                       | (S & W only) On <a href="#">current XC selection?</a> (Yes / No) | <input type="text"/> |
|                                                       | Last Sam welfare inspection date (N/A if not applicable):        | <input type="text"/> |
|                                                       | Ongoing <a href="#">Complex case?</a> (Yes / No)                 | <input type="text"/> |
|                                                       | Sensitive case? (Yes / No)                                       | <input type="text"/> |
| Listed on <a href="#">Hazard Database?</a> (Yes / No) |                                                                  | <input type="text"/> |

### For Complex cases in:

- **England:**
  - following second visit, Field to complete and VAFD to countersign the Complex Case Referral Form - England (WF169(E))
  - following third visit, Referral Form (WF169(E)) to be countersigned by Welfare VA
  - all Referral Form (WF169(E)) versions needs to be emailed prior to visits to [CSCOneHealth.WelfareComplaints@apha.gov.uk](mailto:CSCOneHealth.WelfareComplaints@apha.gov.uk) and [AHWAwelfareVAs@apha.gov.uk](mailto:AHWAwelfareVAs@apha.gov.uk)
- **Scotland and Wales**, please follow specific Complex Case Referral Form - Scotland (WF169(S)) and Complex Case Referral Form - Wales (WF169(W)) instructions respectively

### Local knowledge and further information:

- include risks and/or mitigating factors not recorded above to be considered in the assessment of whether animal needs were/are now being met and if animal suffering was/now is occurring
- refer to the Guidance for Completing the Welfare Incident Record and Veterinary Risk Assessment Form (WF114).

Information available online from the Fish Health Inspectorate (FHI) mortality reports on gov.scot shows that the FHI was aware of the health issues affecting the fish at this site, and that the company's response was being monitored.

On Wednesday, 10 June, a meeting was organised with SSF to discuss the complaint further. CMS (Cardiomyopathy Syndrome) was diagnosed by Scottish Sea Farms (SSF) in November 2025. The virus led to increased reportable mortality above 1% from February 2026 onwards. The FHI was aware of the situation, and ongoing contact with SSF was maintained. There is currently no vaccine or treatment available for this disease. Furthermore, a *Caligus* lice infestation led to additional handling and a subsequent increase in mortality post treatment in mid-March.

Communication with the FHI confirms that appropriate action was taken and the site actively engaged with their health managers and vets to reduce the impact and ensure welfare of the fish was maintained until destocking could occur. They were aware of the situation and monitoring was in place:

"Following the first mortality report over 1% in November 2025 for the Fiunary site (FS0696), mortalities were consistently reported from February to April (weeks 8–18) at between 1.1% and 2.4%, attributed to CMS. Most recently, mortality reports of 1.1% were received for weeks 22 and 23 of 2026, and the fish are at an average weight of 5.3 kg. Functional health feeds have been used, and the site is now being destocked through harvest. The site was visited as part of our routine schedule in week 12 of 2026, and we have no further plans to visit the site and no current concerns to report to APHA."

The site is currently harvesting and expected to be fallow at end of July.  
Therefore further action by APHA is currently not necessary.

**Outcome of discussion with Local Authority (LA) about this case:**

n/a

Name of LA:

Argyll and Bute

Name of LA contact:

n/a

**Local Assessment inspection requirement:** (select one option only)

|                                                                         |                                                                                      |                                                                        |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1A - High<br>Immediate, same day <input type="checkbox"/>               | 2A - Medium<br>Within seven calendar days <input type="checkbox"/>                   | 3 - Low<br>Within 14 calendar days <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| 1B - High (FSA/FSS)<br>Urgent, within 24 hours <input type="checkbox"/> | 2B - Medium (FSA/FSS)<br>Within seven calendar days <input type="checkbox"/>         | 4 - Negligible<br>No inspection <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>    |
| 1C - High<br>Urgent, within 24 hours <input type="checkbox"/>           | 2C - High/Medium<br>(FSA/FSS) Delayed for up to eight weeks <input type="checkbox"/> | 5 - Insufficient information<br>No inspection <input type="checkbox"/> |

**Justification if Local Assessment inspection requirement differs from the VRA inspection requirement:**

See above.

Date inspection required by (N/A if not applicable):

n/a

**England and Wales** - Organisation(s) attending:

APHA only ☐ LA only ☐ APHA and LA ☐ N/A ☒

**Scotland** - Name of organisation(s) attending (N/A if not applicable):

n/a

Name of APHA representative attending (N/A if not applicable):

n/a

Role (N/A if not applicable):

**Veterinarian completing Local Assessment:**

Staff number:

Local Assessment date:

16/06/2026

Local Assessment time:

14:45

Email completed Welfare Incident Record and Veterinary Risk Assessment Form (WF77) to:

England:

- [REDACTED] [@apha.gov.uk](mailto:[REDACTED]@apha.gov.uk)

Scotland:

- [REDACTED] [@apha.gov.uk](mailto:[REDACTED]@apha.gov.uk)
- [REDACTED] [@apha.gov.uk](mailto:[REDACTED]@apha.gov.uk)

Wales:

- [REDACTED] [@apha.gov.uk](mailto:[REDACTED]@apha.gov.uk)
- [REDACTED] [@apha.gov.uk](mailto:[REDACTED]@apha.gov.uk)
- [REDACTED] [@apha.gov.uk](mailto:[REDACTED]@apha.gov.uk)
- Current Welfare Subject Principles and Deputies

APHA is an Executive Agency of the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs and also works on behalf of the Scottish Government, Welsh Government and Food Standards Agency to safeguard animal and plant health for the benefit of people, the environment and the economy.

|           |       |  |                |  |        |  |
|-----------|-------|--|----------------|--|--------|--|
| HM3 Stamp | Name: |  | Date Received: |  | WS ID: |  |
|-----------|-------|--|----------------|--|--------|--|