



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs

T: 03459 33 55 77 or
08459 33 55 77
helpline@defra.gsi.gov.uk
www.gov.uk/defra



Our ref: RFI 7439
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REQUEST FOR INFORMATION: UPDATE ON FUNDS TO SUPPORT DIFFERENT BADGER CULLING METHODS

Thank you for your request for information, which we received on 10 April 2015, about work on alternative badger culling methods. We 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).

Research expenditure on developing alternative badger culling methods since 2013 has totalled £170,697, which comprises Defra funded literature reviews on alternative culling approaches and laboratory and field work. This field work is focussed on gassing but has not involved live animals or active setts. We do not have any projections of future spend on developing alternative badger culling methods.

A summary of Bovine Tuberculosis research projects funded by Defra in 2014-15 was published last December:

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/388113/tb-research-projects.pdf. Page 29 of this link summarises the work to review and provide a preliminary assessment of alternative badger control methods.

In keeping with the spirit and effect of the EIRs and the government's Transparency Agenda, all information is assumed to be releasable to the public unless exempt. Therefore, the information released to you will now be published on www.gov.uk, together with any related information that will provide a key to its wider context. Please note that this will not include your personal data.

I attach Annex A, which explains the copyright that applies to the information being released to you.



INVESTORS
IN PEOPLE

I also attach 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 the address below.

Yours sincerely,

[Redacted Signature]

Information Rights Team

InformationRequests@defra.gsi.gov.uk