



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

15 December 2017

Dear ,

ATISN 11732 Wales TB Eradication Plan - Licences

Thank you for your request which was submitted on 19 November regarding the Bovine TB eradication programme and licences issued under the Protection of badgers Act. Please see the responses below to each of the questions raised.

- How many badger ecologists were consulted about the policy to remove individual test positive badgers?

Welsh Government consulted with badger ecologists at the Animal and Plant Health Agency, National Wildlife Management Centre (NWMC). The NWMC advised Welsh Government on technical and scientific aspects and options in developing our policy. NWMC ecologists, believe it is a reasonable approach to try but there is insufficient evidence to say we would expect positive results.

- Please release any correspondence from badger ecologists relating to this policy.

Correspondence received from NWMC is attached at appendixes 1 and 2

- Please release any minutes of meetings with badger ecologists relating to this policy.

Following a search of our paper and electronic records we have established that no written records of meetings have been made and kept.

- Please release any scientific papers that were considered in relation to this policy by the OCVO and any analysis by the OCVO of how they support the proposed policy.

A list of the scientific papers and analysis is attached at appendix 3 and 3a.

- What other evidence does the OCVO have to justify the statement that badger ecologists have generally accepted the proposed policy?

The Welsh Government hold no further evidence.

If you are dissatisfied with the Welsh Government's handling of your request, you can ask for an internal review within 40 working days of the date of this response. Requests for an internal review should be addressed to the Welsh Government's Freedom of Information Officer at:

Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

TB Team
Office of the Chief Veterinary Officer
Cathays Park
Cardiff
CF10 3NQ

Canolfan Cyswllt Cyntaf / First Point of Contact Centre
0300 0604400

Information Rights Unit,
Welsh Government,
Cathays Park,
Cardiff,
CF10 3NQ

or Email: FreedomOfInformationOfficer@wales.gsi.gov.uk

Please remember to quote the ATISN reference number above.

You also have the right to complain to the Information Commissioner. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office,
Wycliffe House,
Water Lane,
Wilmslow,
Cheshire,
SK9 5AF.

However, please note that the Commissioner will not normally investigate a complaint until it has been through our own internal review process.

Yours sincerely