

Veterinary Service Animal Health Group
Information Communications Branch



Department of
**Agriculture, Environment
and Rural Affairs**

An Roinn

**Talmhaíochta, Comhshaoil
agus Gnóthaí Tuaithe**

Department o'

**Fairmin, Environment
an' Kintra Matthers**

www.daera-ni.gov.uk

Our reference: DAERA/26-41

[REDACTED]

Via email:

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] [@whatdotheyknow.com](mailto:[REDACTED]@whatdotheyknow.com)>

VSAHG Information Communications Branch
1st Floor
Jubilee House
111 Ballykelly Road
Limavady
BT49 9HP

Email: vsinfocommsbranch@daera-ni.gov.uk

9 February 2026

Dear [REDACTED]

Freedom of Information Act 2000

Thank you for your email received by the Department on 23 January 2026 which you sought the information in bold below.

- 1. Since the introduction of the TB Eradication scheme, how many times, with dates listed, in the last 20 years has the scheme been reviewed for its progress and success rate?**
- 2. How is the success-fullness of the scheme reviewed?**
- 3. When is the next review due to take place?**

I can advise that the Department has completed its search and confirm that it holds the information you requested.

The Department has decided not to disclose the information held Under Section 21 (Information Accessible by Other Means) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, as information relevant to your request is already publicly accessible. Links to the information have been provided below where relevant.

If you are deaf or have a hearing difficulty you can contact the Department via the Next Generation Text Relay Service by dialling 18001 + telephone number.

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1. Two comprehensive reviews of Northern Ireland's bovine Tuberculosis (bTB) eradication programme have taken place within the last twenty years.

In December 2016, the TB Strategic Partnership Group (TBSPG) published recommendations across seven themes, Governance, Culture, Processes, Wildlife, Herd Management, Finance and Research for a new long-term bovine TB strategy. This review and associated papers is published on the DAERA website and can be accessed at <https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/publications/tbsp-g-bovine-tb-eradication-strategy-ni>.

In November 2024, the department published the Chief Veterinary Officer Review of Bovine Tuberculosis in Northern Ireland. The review examined Northern Ireland's approach to bovine TB eradication with multiple proposals across three key themes of Cattle, Wildlife and People. This review can be accessed at <https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/publications/chief-veterinary-officer-review-bovine-tuberculosis-northern-ireland-november-2024>.

2. The success and effectiveness of the TB eradication programme is generally measured by the level of disease prevalent in Northern Ireland. The department publishes monthly reports in relation to the testing for, and incidence of, Tuberculosis in cattle and these can be accessed at <https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/articles/tuberculosis-statistics-northern-ireland-2007-feb-25>.

3. As the most recent review of the bTB eradication programme was published in November 2024, there is no future review scheduled at present.

If you require any clarification, believe that any part of your request has been overlooked, misunderstood or misinterpreted, please contact me in the first instance to see if it is a matter that can be resolved.

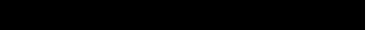
If you are unhappy with the way your request for information has been handled or the decision to release/withhold information, you have the right to request a formal review by the Department. If you wish to do so, please contact The Review Section either by e-mailing daera.informationmanager@daera-ni.gov.uk or by post at The Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs, Data Protection & Information Management Branch, Floor 2, Jubilee House, 111 Ballykelly Road, Ballykelly, Limavady BT49 9HP, within two months from the date of this letter.

If after such an internal review you are still unhappy with the response, you have the right to appeal to the Information Commissioner at Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, CHESHIRE, SK9 5AF, who will undertake an independent review of the Department's decision.

Yours sincerely,

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