

**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](http://www.daera-ni.gov.uk)

**Our reference:** DAERA/26-80

Via email:

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

Email: [vsinfocommsbranch@daera-ni.gov.uk](mailto:vsinfocommsbranch@daera-ni.gov.uk)

02 March 2026

Dear [REDACTED]

### **Freedom of Information Act 2000**

Thank you for your email received by the Department on 06 February 2026 which you sought the information in bold below. I can advise that the Department has completed its search and confirm that it holds the information you requested.

#### **1. copy of all correspondence on Bovine TB with European Food safety authority in the calendar year 2025.**

The Department has decided not to disclose some of the information as it is being withheld under the following exemption of the Freedom of Information Act: Section 40(2) – Third party personal data of which you are not the data subject.

In these instances, the Department is required to consider if disclosure would breach the first Data Protection Principle, which states that processing must be lawful, fair and transparent.

The Department has considered this element within the test attached at **Annex A** and has determined that no lawful basis for disclosure under FOI exists. Please bear in mind that any disclosure must be considered in terms of disclosure to the “world at large” and not just to

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you, the requester. Consequently, third party personal data falling within the scope of this request has been withheld.

The information that can be released is attached at **Annex B - G**

**2. copy of all reports on Bovine TB with European Food safety authority in the calendar year 2025.**

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. These reports are now publicly available we have provided the link to download and review the data submitted in 2025.

[Annual National Report \(NI\)](#)

**3. copy of all comments on reports on Bovine TB with European Food safety authority in the calendar year 2025.**

Zoonoses validation is issued by EFSA as a single consolidated document. As a result, all material not relevant to bovine tuberculosis has been removed from scope, and comments relating specifically to bovine TB have been extracted and provided in the attached spreadsheets. This includes EFSA's comments and DAERA's responses. The second spreadsheet contains the data extracted from the initial report submitted to EFSA. While two validation stages are normally undertaken, no further follow-up questions were raised once responses were returned to EFSA, as confirmed via email (attached). Please refer to **Annex H (i) and Annex H (ii)**.

Please note that you will have to expand some of the columns in the spreadsheets to see the information.

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](mailto: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.

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Yours sincerely,



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