

Reference Number: DAERA/26-464



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

An Roinn

**Talmhaíochta, Comhshaoil
agus Gnóthaí Tuaithe**

Depairtment o'

**Fairmin, Environment
an' Kintra Matthers**

www.daera-ni.gov.uk

**Veterinary Service Animal Health
Group**
Information Communications Branch

Via Email
[REDACTED]@gmail.com

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

E-mail: vsinfocommsbranch@daera-ni.gov.uk

31 July 2026

Dear [REDACTED]

Freedom of Information Act 2000

With regard to your request for information received by the Department on 15 July 2026 which sought the following information:

I'm writing this today to request information on the person who recently reported us for "welfare issue complaints"

Following this complaint, your official, called with us on the Tuesday 26/05/26 and was able to inform us of the following points:

- 1. Complaint made via email over Bank Holiday weekend**
- 2. The alleged report said "approx 50 cows in a field with no grass, in starvation and no water"**
- 3. The alleged report said "cows clearly visible from Annaghmakeown Rd"**

Following this information, we would like to request a formal copy of this complaint, all data held by DAERA relating to this complaint or correspondence concerning us, including the content of the report and any information on the source of the complaint

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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I can advise that the Department has completed its search and can confirm that it holds the information you requested however, we have decided to withhold some of the information 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 you, the requester. Consequently, third party personal data falling within the scope of this request has been withheld.

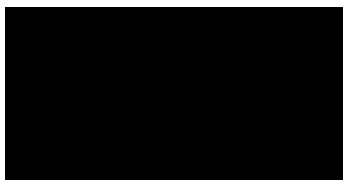
The information that can be released is attached as **Annex B and C**.

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 manner in which 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,



Veterinary Service Animal Health Group