

Reference Number : DAERA/26-589



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

An Roinn

**Talmhaíochta, Comhshaoil
agus Gnóthaí Tuaithe**

Department o'

**Fairmin, Environment
an' Kintra Matthers**

Veterinary Service Animal Health Group
Information Communication Branch

[REDACTED]

Via Email:

[REDACTED]

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

Email: vsinfocommsbranch@daera-ni.gov.uk

Dear [REDACTED]

04 September 2026

Freedom of Information Act 2000

Thank you for your email received by the Department on 11 August 2026 which you sought the information in bold below.

For the past 5 years, please provide:

The number of cattle which have been culled by Departmental staff, broken down by year and by Divisional Veterinary Office area and listing the reason for their euthanasia.

Clarification received: I would like to confirm, that I refer to farmed animals culled humanely, on farm by Department officials, and broken down by i) cattle and ii) sheep.

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

In some cases, information around location has been recorded as County area rather than by Divisional Veterinary Office area. Therefore, the information provided reflects the manner in which it is recorded.

The information is attached as **Annex A**. Please note that you may have to expand some of the columns on the CSV file to view all of the information.

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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“Animal health” reasons relate to the killing of the animals primarily to prevent spreading the disease to other animals.

“Public Health” reasons relate to the killing of animals primarily to prevent microbiological or chemical contamination of human beings.

“Other” relate to the killing of animals for animal welfare or environmental reasons.

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,



Veterinary Service Animal Health Group