

Reference Number: DAERA/26-596



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

An Roinn

**Talmhaíochta, Comhshaoil
agus Gnóthaí Tuaithe**

Department of

**Fairmin, Environment
an' Kintra Matthers**

www.daera-ni.gov.uk

Veterinary Service Animal Health Group
Information Communications Branch

Via Email:

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

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

09 September 2026

Dear [REDACTED]

Freedom of Information Act 2000

With regard to your request for information received by the Department on 11 August 2026 which sought the following information:

1. How many cattle have been shot dead in fields by the DAERA Humane Slaughter Team over the last 5 years? (1 August 2021 to 31 July 2026)?

2. For each instance, please provide:

the date of the incident

the geographic location (country/county) where this took place - please include any instances outside DAERA's jurisdiction

the total number of cattle slaughtered during each specific operation

the legislative basis that prompted each instance

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 information relevant to your request. This is attached in **Annex A**. Please note that you may have to expand some of the columns on the CSV file to view all of the information.

While the Department holds records relating to Humane Slaughter Team operations, it does not record the specific detail to identify cattle shot in fields.

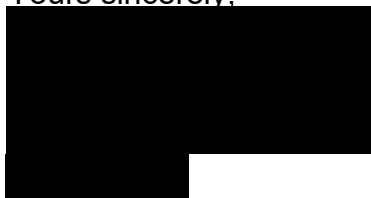
In line with EU reporting obligations, this data is collated and held by month and year.

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,

A large black rectangular box redacting the signature of the sender.

Veterinary Service Animal Health Group