

Reference Number: DAERA/26-616



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:

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 reference to your request for information received by the Department on 13 August 2026, regarding the enforcement of Deprivation Orders regarding cattle in Northern Ireland over the past 5 years.

I can confirm that the Department has completed its searches and holds information within the scope of your request. The answers provided below relate to cattle present on site at the time a deprivation order was enacted.

How many farm deprivation orders have been granted following convictions in Northern Ireland over the past 5 years?

Since 1 January 2021, five deprivation orders have been granted under the Welfare of Animals Act (Northern Ireland) 2011. All of these orders provided for the deprivation of ownership of cattle.

How many of these deprivation orders were due to convictions related to animal welfare offences?

Five.

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.

INVESTORS IN PEOPLE®
We invest in people Standard

How many of these deprivation orders included farms which held cattle – either beef or dairy?

Three. Note that this figure relates to the presence of cattle on site when a deprivation order operation was undertaken.

How many of these deprivation orders ended with the livestock on the farm being destroyed?

Three. Note that this figure relates to cases where cattle were humanely destroyed following the enforcement of a deprivation order.

How many of these deprivation orders ended with the livestock on the farm being sold?

None.

How many individual cattle have been destroyed as a result of farm Deprivation Orders over the past 5 years in Northern Ireland?

Since 1 January 2021, 129 cattle have been humanely destroyed.

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