

Reference Number: DAERA/26-659



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 Communication Branch

Via email:

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111 Ballykelly Road
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BT49 9HP

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11 September 2026

Environmental Information Regulations 2004

Thank you for your email received by the Department on 18 August 2026 which you sought the information in bold below.

Our focus will be on the information contained in Annex VIII and Annex X. To enable us to undertake a thorough review, it would be very useful to see some of the information that sits behind the figures presented in those Annexes of the Consultation on Wildlife Intervention Options

There is a hierarchy in terms of the data that would be helpful, as follows;

- **The spreadsheet model that (presumably) produces the figures. Whilst this would be the most comprehensive, we understand that you may not wish to put this full in the public domain. Given that, some other requests would be;**
- **Value and volume data for the various cost categories (e.g. wage rates x hours; cage no.s x purchase costs etc.), and/or**
- **A split of the total costs into categories – labour, traps, vaccine, etc.**
- **At a minimum, a split into labour versus non-labour costs would be useful. Within this, it would still be hugely useful to get the ‘volume data’ – i.e. how are the hours arrived at? - hours per trap, number of traps etc.**

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.

The Department has decided to withhold certain information falling within the scope of your request, having concluded that the exceptions under Regulation 12(5)(a) (international relations, defence, national security or public safety) and Regulation 12(5)(e) (commercial confidentiality) of the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 are engaged. In accordance with Regulation 12(2), the Department has applied the presumption in favour of disclosure. In these instances, the Department is legislatively required to consider the public interest in disclosure. An associated Public Interest Test has been conducted and is attached for your information at **Annex A**.

For clarity, all of the cost information requested, including the spreadsheet model, cost assumptions, calculations, value and volume data, and supporting operational inputs, relates solely to the development of the option costs presented in Annex VIII of the Consultation on Wildlife Intervention Options. Annex VIII contains the economic assessment and associated cost modelling for the wildlife intervention options. By contrast, Annex X comprises the Bovine TB in Northern Ireland: Blueprint for Eradication and does not contain any underlying economic model, cost calculations or supporting cost datasets developed by the Department. Accordingly, no additional cost information exists in relation to Annex X beyond the material already published as part of the consultation documentation.

The information being released is attached as documents **1 - 28**. Please note that you may have to expand some of the columns on the CSV files to view all of the information. Also, in documents 22 - 28 please use the increase decimal point option to show more decimal places for a precise value.

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,

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