

Reference Number: DAERA/26-756



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

[REDACTED]

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Jubilee House
111 Ballykelly Road
Limavady
BT49 9HP

Email: vsinfocommsbranch@daera-ni.gov.uk

21 October 2026

Dear [REDACTED]

Environmental Information Regulations 2004

Thank you for your email received by the Department on 23 September 2026 which you sought the information in bold below.

Please could I request a full breakdown of the activities carried out at Brook Hall Estate (65-67 Culmore Road, BT48 8JE) to date through the Bovine Tuberculosis Regionalisation Research Pilot.

Please make sure to include the following:

- **Results of sett survey including locations of active and inactive sets and latrines**
- **Indications of badger movement to surrounding farms**
- **Locations of traps deployed**
- **Number of badgers trapped, tested, vaccinated and culled**
- **Total estimated badger population**
- **Risk of transfer from neighbouring farms**

Lastly, to keep you updated, we do not have cattle on farm, however, we will be summer grazing from approximately April-October 2027. These animals are not our own but will be coming from another farm.

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 some of the information you requested. However, the Department has considered the data requested and has decided to invoke an Environmental Information Regulation exception:

- EIR Regulation 12(5)(g) – Protection of the environment.

This is a qualified exception, and the Department must consider the Public Interest in maintaining the exceptions. These considerations are attached at **Annex A**.

In respect of information relating to:

- **Indications of badger movement to surrounding farms,**
- **Total estimated badger population, and,**
- **Risk of transfer from neighbouring farms,**

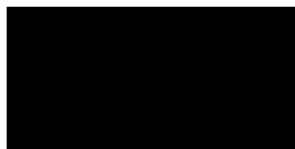
This information was not recorded as part of the study. Accordingly, the Department is relying on Regulation 12(4)(a) of the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 in respect of these elements of the request.

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