

Telephone 08459 33 55 77  
Website [www.defra.gov.uk](http://www.defra.gov.uk)

**Our ref RFI 3266**  
**Date 30 March 2010**

Varda Mehrotra  
[request-31706-f261fe6b@whatdotheyknow.com](mailto:request-31706-f261fe6b@whatdotheyknow.com)

Dear Varda Mehrotra

**REQUEST FOR INFORMATION: WILD ANIMALS IN CIRCUSES**

Thank you for your request for information about the number of people from Scotland who signed the consultation paper supporting a ban of wild animals in circuses, which we received on 29 March. We are dealing with your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

I regret to have to inform you that the information you requested is not held by Defra.

As you may know, an initial summary of responses to the consultation exercise was published on 26 March. I attach a link (<http://defraweb/corporate/consult/circus-wild-animals/responses.pdf>) to it for your ease of reference.

As you can see, the document summarised 10,576 responses and we also received 2,331 postcards not included in the initial summary. You will also see that the 10,576 responses included 9,390 electronic responses to an on-line questionnaire and 712 hard-copy responses to the on-line questionnaire (blank copies printed out, and then completed in manuscript). As the questionnaire did not require people to enter their postal address, we do not know how many of them were sent from people in Scotland. Therefore, the answer to your question is not held by us.

If you have any queries about this letter, please contact me. I attach an annex giving contact details should you be unhappy with the service you have received.

Yours sincerely



Mark Benneworth  
Animal Welfare Team

## Annex A

### Complaints

If you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request you may make a complaint or appeal against our decision within 40 working days of the date of this letter. Please write to Clive Porro, Head of Defra's Information Rights Team at, Area1B Ergon House, Horseferry Road, London SW1P 2AL, (email: [informationrights@defra.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:informationrights@defra.gsi.gov.uk)) who will arrange for an internal review of your case. Details of Defra's complaints procedure can be found at: <http://www.defra.gov.uk/corporate/complain/info.htm>

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. Please note that generally the Information Commissioner cannot make a decision unless you have first exhausted Defra's own complaints procedure. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office  
Wycliffe House  
Water Lane  
Wilmslow  
Cheshire  
SK9 5AF