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**Our ref** RFI 3335

**Date** 9 June 2010

Mr Des Prior – by email

Dear Mr Prior,

**REQUEST FOR INFORMATION: Ringing Regulations – Ring Quality Control**

Thank you for your request for information about quality control of rings for Schedule 4 birds, which we received on 9 May 2010. We are dealing with your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

Following a search of our paper and electronic records, I have established that the information you requested is not held by Defra. In response to your queries I can inform you Defra has no records of what quality controls for rings supplied for Schedule 4 birds were in place between 2000 up until 2008 when Defra stopped issuing rings in England and Wales for Schedule 4 birds under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (the Act).

Similarly, Defra does not hold any records regarding what checking for manufacturing faults took place during this period, nor does the Department hold records relating to what faults may have been found. Defra does not hold a written list of checks in relation to the inspection of rings for Schedule 4 birds under the Act.

I can confirm that to the best of our knowledge the information is not held by another public authority.

Yours sincerely

Tim Andrews

**Direct Line** 0117 372 6170

**Fax** 0117 372 8393  
**Email** [tim.andrews@defra.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:tim.andrews@defra.gsi.gov.uk)

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

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## **Annexe 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: [www.defra.gov.uk/corporate/policy/.opengov/complain/info.htm](http://www.defra.gov.uk/corporate/policy/.opengov/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