



Scottish Natural Heritage Dualchas Nàdair na h-Alba

All of nature for all of Scotland
Nàdar air fad airson Alba air fad

Mr Simon Bramwell

By email: request-479681-a04088ac@whatdotheyknow.com

Our Ref: SIR150316/A2651569

15 June 2018

Dear Mr Bramwell

Information Request – Strathbraan Licence

Thank you for your information request, which we received on 23 April. We have considered your request under the Environmental Information (Scotland) Regulations 2004 ('the EIRs').

Your Request

“Please can you provide me with information pertaining to the process of granting the licence for the proposed 5 year experiment to cull 300 Ravens at Strathbraan.

Of especial interest would be all email correspondence, phone calls and letters between SNH and other people / organisations such as the SCCW (strathbraan community collaboration for waders).

Can you also provide the documentation submitted in regards to the scientific evidence which led you to making this decision.”

Our Response

We have carried out a detailed search of the information we hold, and copies of all the relevant documents are available at: <https://www.nature.scot/strathbraan-licence-information-released>.

The information includes the licence application, the licence application assessment, the issued licence and all the relevant internal and external correspondence.

Some parts of the documents provided have been marked out (redacted). The reasons for this are:

- We have marked out (redacted) some parts of the documents where they contain personal data.

Releasing the personal into the public domain in response to an access to information request would breach the Data Protection Act 1998. We are therefore withholding the information under EIRs Regulation 11(2) (Personal data).

- We have redacted some information that was provided to us voluntarily and in confidence. There are no other circumstances that entitle SNH to disclose this information, and the correspondent has not consented to its disclosure. Making the information publicly available would be likely to substantially prejudice the interests of

the correspondent. We are therefore withholding the information under EIRs Regulation 10(5)(f) (Interests of the individual providing the information).

We have concluded that, in this case, the public interest in making the information available is outweighed by the public interest in withholding it and maintaining the confidence in which the information was provided.

- We have redacted a small amount of information in the documents that falls out-with the scope of your request.

How We Handled Your Request

We believe you have asked for environmental information as defined in the Environmental Information (Scotland) Regulations 2004 ('the EIRs'), so we are dealing with your request under those regulations. To be able to use the EIRs, we must apply an exemption under section 39(2) of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 ('FOISA'). The Scottish Information Commissioner's guidance recommends that public authorities apply this exemption to environmental information and handle requests under the EIRs.

If you would like to find out more about the access to information legislation there is a guidance booklet available on the Scottish Information Commissioner's website:
<http://www.itspublicknowledge.info/nmsruntime/saveasdialog.aspx?IID=5487&SID=5024>.

Review and Appeal

I hope this information meets your requirements but if you are dissatisfied with how we have responded to your information request, please write to us within 40 working days explaining your concerns. You can contact us at Battleby, Redgorton, Perth, PH1 3EW or email us at foi@snh.gov.uk. We will carry out a review of our response and contact you with our findings within 20 working days.

If you are not satisfied following this, you can make an appeal to the Scottish Information Commissioner. The Scottish Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

Scottish Information Commissioner
Kinburn Castle
Doubledykes Road
St Andrews
Fife
KY16 9DS

Online appeal service: www.itspublicknowledge.info/Appeal

Website: <http://www.itspublicknowledge.info/>

Telephone: 01334 464610

Yours sincerely

Rhoda Davidson

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Information Officer
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