



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs

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Vicky Cann
By email: request-591461-c2637c5b@whatdotheyknow.com

Our ref: FOI2019/15839
13 August 2019

Dear Vicky Cann,

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION: Proposed Ban on Food Additive E171

Thank you for your request for information of 23 July 2019 about the proposed ban on food additive E171. We have handled your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

The information you requested and our response is detailed below.

"I would like to request a list of all lobby meetings held by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, since 17 April 2019, where the proposed ban on food additive E171 by the French Government was discussed. The list should include the names of the individuals and organisations attending; the date; and any agendas / minutes / notes produced. I would additionally like to receive any third party position papers, emails, or other correspondence which relates to discussions around the French Government's ban on E171. This request should also cover any lobbying around meetings of the EU's Standing Committee on Plants, Animals, Food and Feed (PAFF Committee)."

We are writing to advise you that the information that you have requested is not held by Defra. As far as we are aware, there have been no lobby meeting or lobbying activity around the proposed ban on the food additive E171 organised by Defra, and no lobby meetings about this subject at which Defra officials have been present.

We can confirm that the information maybe held by the Food Standards Agency (FSA) who can be contacted here:

FCT@food.gov.uk

FOI, Complaints and Transparency Team
Food Standards Agency
Clive House, 70 Petty France
Westminster
London SW1H 9EX

We attach an annex giving contact details should you be unhappy with the service you have received.

If you have any queries about this letter please contact me.



Yours sincerely

D Lynch

Information Rights Team

InformationRequests@defra.gov.uk

Annex

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 under section 17(7) of the FOIA or under regulation 11 of the EIRs, as applicable, within 40 working days of the date of this letter. Please write to Andrew Mobsby, Head of Information Rights, Area 5B, Nobel House, 17 Smith Square, London, SW1P 3JR (email: InformationRequests@defra.gov.uk) and he will arrange for an internal review of your case. Details of Defra's complaints procedure are on our [website](#).

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, section 50 of the FOIA and regulation 18 of the EIRs gives you the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) for a decision. Please note that generally the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have first exhausted Defra's own complaints procedure. The ICO can be contacted at:

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