



Animal &  
Plant Health  
Agency

Animal and Plant Health Agency  
Access to Information Team  
Weybourne Building  
Ground Floor  
Woodham Lane  
New Haw  
Addlestone  
Surrey  
KT15 3NB

F 01932 357608

[www.gov.uk/apha](http://www.gov.uk/apha)

Martin Wright  
{By Email}

Our Ref: ATIC1471

05 October 2018

Dear Martin Wright

## REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

Thank you for your request for information about Inconclusive reactors, which we received on 29 September 2018. We have handled your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000

Your request was:

“APHA have recently introduced a policy whereby Inconclusive reactors that pass the repeat TB test after being declared inconclusive become resolved inconclusive reactors (RIR) and are then confined to their holding for life unless the keeper undertakes a private gamma interferon test.

This policy is based on research from Ireland which showed that RIRs from officially TB free herds had a higher likelihood of subsequently developing TB than non RIRs.

The purpose of this FOI request is to understand the data APHA has on whether the likelihood of an RIR subsequently developing TB varies by the length of time since the herd last had a breakdown or lost that status. The request would be satisfied by a table which showed likelihood of an RIR subsequently developing bTB against the length of time the herd had been officially TB free at the time of the animal becoming an RIR.”

APHA have established that the information that you have requested is not held by APHA

.

APHA are aware of a scientific paper co-written by APHA authors and currently in press that evaluates the downstream risk of TB breakdowns in IR-only herds. Although this will not answer your specific request, this analysis may be of interest when it is published in the open-access journal 'Frontiers'.at the link below:

<https://www.frontiersin.org/>

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

If you have any queries about this letter, please contact the Access to Information Team at the email address below or postal address at the top of this letter.

Yours sincerely

**ACCESS TO INFORMATION TEAM** Email: [enquiries@apha.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@apha.gsi.gov.uk)

## **Annex**

### **Complaints**

If you are unhappy with the result of your request for information you may request an internal review within 40 working days of the date of this letter.

If you wish to request an internal review, please contact: The Access to Information Team at [enquiries@apha.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@apha.gsi.gov.uk) or at the postal address at the top of this letter, who will arrange for an internal review of your case.

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 APHA's own complaints procedure. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

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