



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs

Seacole Building
4th Floor
2 Marsham Street
London
SW1P 4DF

T: 03459 33 55 77
helpline@defra.gov.uk
www.gov.uk/defra

Al Clayton
By email: request-1103975-b001f2bc@whatdotheyknow.com

Our ref: FOI2024/06098
15 March 2024

Dear Al Clayton,

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION: Funding, expenditure, food issues & other matters

Thank you for your request for information of 15 March 2024 about funding, expenditure, food issues and other matters. We have handled your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

Your information request and our response are set out below.

- 1. the funding DEFRA receive and from what sources,*
- 2. details of all DEFRA spending since Jan 2020, with a full breakdown of such,*
- 3. details of the respective percentages of expenditure spent directly on assuring food sovereignty for U.K.*

The information you have requested in parts 1 to 3 is publicly available via the following link:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/defras-annual-reports>

As the information is reasonably accessible to you by other means, section 21 of the FOIA exempts Defra from providing a copy of the information with this response to your request.

- 4. details of the research has DEFRA has independently conducted to ensure the safety of consumption for humans on food that has received mRNA technology intervention(s),*
- 5. details of how mRNA technology is being deployed within U.K. agriculture,*
- 6. details of the degree to which mRNA technology deployment has already been rolled out in relation to U.K. agriculture,*
- 7. the geographical location of any trials being conducted in the U.K. relating to mRNA in respect of livestock,*
- 8. the geographical location of any trials involving mRNA technology which are being conducted in relation to plants/crops,*

9. *details of who is ultimately responsible for mRNA technology being, or to be, used in agriculture in the U.K.*

The information in relation to parts 4 to 9 is not held by Defra.

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

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 via email at 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 using the following link:

<https://ico.org.uk/make-a-complaint/official-information-concerns-report/official-information-concern/>