



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs

T: 03459 33 55 77 or
08459 33 55 77
helpline@defra.gsi.gov.uk
www.gov.uk/defra

Mr Cross
request-247764-8fa104c3@whatdotheyknow.com

Our ref: RFI 7213
Date: 10 February 2015

Dear Mr Cross

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION: Pest Reference List

Thank you for your request for information, which was transferred to us by FERA on 12 January 2015, about the Pest Reference List. We are handling your request under the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 (EIRs).

The EIRs apply to requests for environmental information, which is a broad category of information defined in regulation 2 of the EIRs. Public authorities are required to handle requests for environmental information under the EIRs. They give similar access rights to the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

I am writing to advise you that the time limit for responding to your request for information under the EIRs needs to be extended.

The EIRs allow us 20 working days after receipt of your request to respond. However, it is occasionally necessary to extend the 20-working-day time limit for issuing a response. The EIRs allow for an extension of up to 20 additional working days because of the complexity of your request and the volume of information that you have requested. In this case, I regret that we must extend the time limit for responding by 20 working days from the original deadline of 9 February. I hope to let you have a response by 9 March.

I 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 the address below.

Yours sincerely,

Ben Heathcote
Defra FOIA and EIRs Team
InformationRequests@defra.gsi.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 18 of the EIRs, as applicable, within 40 working days of the date of this letter. Please write to Mike Kaye, Head of Information Standards, Area 4D, Nobel House, 17 Smith Square, London, SW1P 3JR (email: requestforinfo@defra.gsi.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 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