



# Department for Digital, Culture, Media & Sport

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23 August 2019

Alex Alexander  
[request-589671-1a273f54@whatdotheyknow.com](mailto:request-589671-1a273f54@whatdotheyknow.com)

Our Ref: TO2019/08284

Dear Alex Alexander,

Thank you for your emails of 4 August in which you made follow-up requests for information relating to 5G RuralFirst. We have treated some of your requests as correspondence as they are not requests for recorded information, and to respond to some of the questions raised requires an explanation. Please find answers to your questions below:

## **Can you explain on what grounds is the said FOI request is not recorded?**

The 5G trials specified were not run this department, therefore we do not record the information you requested initially. The department was able to provide you with some supplementary information with the aim of helping you understand the trials you are interested in though.

## **Who decided weather trials are recorded and on what grounds?**

We do not hold this information. As above, the department did not carry out these trials, so we had no responsibility to record them.

## **Are the said trials protected by the UK Government Secrecy Act or any other Government Code?**

The trials are not 'protected' by the Official Secrets Act 1989 and any information we were to hold would be considered for release under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (the Act). As above, the department did provide you with some information to help facilitate understanding of the trials. More Information about the trials and the project can be found on the 5G RuralFirst website (<https://www.5gruralfirst.org/>).

## **Where exactly were the said trials carried out in each said area, please give location and grid reference.**

The department does not hold this information. You may wish to contact 5G RuralFirst who will hold the specific locations of the trials.

I should make it clear that the department has noted your email of 22 August however has not considered the case as an internal review due to the fact that the statutory 20 working days to respond has not been exceeded in responding to your emails of 4 August, and because we responded to your original request of 16 July.

For guidance on making a freedom of information request, please consult the Information Commissioner's Office website: <https://ico.org.uk/your-data-matters/official-information/>.



Yours sincerely,

Freedom of Information Team  
**Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport**

### **Complaints and comments**

As is customary in our replies, I should explain that if you are dissatisfied with any aspect of our response to your request for information, and/or wish to appeal against information being withheld from you, please send full details within two calendar months of the date of this response to: [foi@culture.gov.uk](mailto:foi@culture.gov.uk). You have the right to ask the Information Commissioner (ICO) to investigate any aspect of your complaint. Please note that the ICO is likely to expect internal complaints procedures to have been exhausted before beginning an investigation.