

Our Ref: F0182924

Don Staniford

If telephoning ask for:
Cara Everitt

1 August 2012

Dear Mr Staniford

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION - RESPONSE TIME EXTENDED DUE TO VOLUMINOUS AND COMPLEX ENQUIRY

I am writing to confirm the timescale for handling your information request relating to "Scotland's Aquaculture Database". The key elements of your request are noted below:

Please provide all correspondence and any information since 2007 relating to 'Scotland's Aquaculture Database' including reference to "data cleansing".

This FOI request therefore relates, inter alia, to the original proposal "made around two and a half years ago by the then head of the Marine Scotland Aquaculture Unit". This information would include any emails, phone calls, meetings, briefing notes, notes of Marine Strategy Forum meetings (as detailed below), data, test database/website, FOI replies and correspondence via the Marine Strategy Forum between Marine Scotland, SEPA, the Crown Estate and Food Standards Agency Scotland or any other information.

[Copy of MSF 85/2012 paper attached for reference]

If this request is deemed too voluminous I am only too happy to discuss ways to narrow the request. Please provide this information electronically via email.

Clarification of your request sought

We made an initial assessment of the scope of your request and determined that it was potentially complex and voluminous in scope. We therefore sought clarification on 13 July 2012 to facilitate a narrowing in scope of the request, if it was possible. We also provided advice and assistance to you in relation to the data to be provided via the website. You provided feedback and augmented the detail of your request in relation to project documentation and sea lice data in the "Scotland's Agriculture Database"

Based on your feedback we liaised further with colleagues and it was determined that the request still remained complex and voluminous. Further clarification was sought, on 25 July, on your definition of key elements in your request to ensure the location of information could be targeted. You responded on 26 July 2012.

Following receipt of your second clarification, we have determined that your request still remains complex and voluminous in scope. As such, we have invoked the terms of Regulation 7 of the Environmental Information (Scotland) and have applied the extended response time of 40 working days. The wording of the regulation is noted below.



Chairman
David Sigsworth

Chief Executive
James Curran

Corporate Office
Erskine Court, Castle Business Park, Stirling FK9 4TR
tel 01786 457700 fax 01786 446885
www.sepa.org.uk

7. - (1) The period of 20 working days referred to in-

(a) regulation 5(2)(a);

(b) regulation 6(2)(a); and

(c) regulation 13(a), may be extended by a Scottish public authority by a further period of up to 20 working days if the volume and complexity of the information requested makes it impracticable for the authority either to comply with the request within the earlier period or to make a decision to refuse to do so.

(2) Where paragraph (1) applies the Scottish public authority shall notify the applicant accordingly as soon as possible and in any event no later than 20 working days after the date of receipt of the request for the information.

(3) Notification under paragraph (2) shall-

(a) be in writing;

(b) give the authority's reasons for considering the information to be voluminous and complex; and

(c) inform the applicant of the review provisions under regulation 16 and of the enforcement and appeal provisions available in accordance with regulation 17.

Where clarification has been sought, the response period runs from the date of the receipt of the clarification, not from the date of the receipt of the original request. In this instance, the 40 working days response period runs from 26 July 2012, which was the date of receipt of your clarification.

On that basis, we would issue you with a response to your request on or before **20 September 2012**.

Please note that should the staff time required to locate and retrieve the information within the scope of your request exceed 7 hours, we may issue a Fees Notice in accordance with our Charging Policy http://www.sepa.org.uk/about_us/access_to_information/charging_policy.aspx

If you are not satisfied with our determination in this matter, you have up until 26 September 2012 to request a formal review from SEPA at:

Access to Information
SEPA Corporate Office
Erskine Court
Castle Business Park
STIRLING
FK9 4TR
Email: foi@sepa.org.uk

If you are still not satisfied, you can appeal to the Scottish Information Commissioner.

Scottish Information Commissioner
Kinburn Castle
Doubledykes Road
St Andrews
Fife
KY16 9DS
Telephone: 01334 464610
Fax: 01334 464611
e-mail: enquiries@itspublicknowledge.info

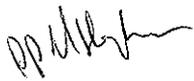
Your unique reference number is F0182924. Please quote this in any future contact with us about your request.

This letter has been sent electronically to salmonfarmingkills@gmail.com

If you would like a hard copy signed letter please do not hesitate to contact me.

If you have any queries in the meantime please contact me.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Cara Everitt', written in a cursive style.

Cara Everitt
Access to Information Co-ordinator

