

ATISN reference number: 26852

13 April 2026

Dear

Information requested

Thank you for your request which I received on 02 April 2026. You asked for:

1. The total amount of compensation paid by [Defra/APHA/Welsh Government] for animals culled under statutory disease control measures for each of the last ten financial years.

2. Please provide this broken down by species category, including but not limited to:

- Poultry*
- Pigs*
- Cattle*
- Sheep*
- Any other species for which compensation was paid*

3. For each of the last ten financial years, please provide the total number of animals culled under statutory disease control measures, broken down by species as above.

4. For each of the last ten financial years, please provide the total compensation paid for each notifiable disease category, including but not limited to:

- Avian influenza*
- Bovine tuberculosis*
- Classical swine fever*
- African swine fever (if applicable)*
- BSE*
- Brucellosis*
- Any other notifiable livestock diseases for which compensation was paid*

5. Please provide any internal summaries, briefing notes, or reports produced in the last five years that outline:

- Total public expenditure on disease related culls*
- Sector level exposure (e.g., poultry sector, pig sector, cattle sector)*
- Financial pressures or budget impacts arising from disease outbreaks*

6. Please provide regional or county level totals for compensation payments for each of the last ten financial years (aggregated so that no individual farm or business is identifiable).

Our response

From my preliminary assessment I estimate that it will cost more than the appropriate limit set out in the Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2004 to answer your request. The appropriate limit specified for central government is £600. This represents the estimated cost of it taking over 24 hours of time to determine whether we hold the information and to thereafter locate, retrieve and extract it.

In order to provide you with the information that you have requested it would require significant collation and analysis across multiple areas and financial years, and

particularly for points 5 and 6, it is likely to require considerable time to identify if data is readily accessible. Consequently, I have decided not to provide you with the information you have requested, however I can refer you to the recently published [Return of expenditure incurred and prosecutions taken under the Animal Health Act 1981 and incidences of disease in imported animals for the year.](#)

Specifically in relation to TB, DEFRA publishes GB TB statistics and these contain information on, amongst other things, the number of cattle slaughtered as a result of TB [Bovine TB statistics - GOV.UK](#). WG also publish a summary of these statistics [Incidence of tuberculosis \(TB\) in cattle in Great Britain: December 2025 | GOV.WALES](#) along with WG's interactive TB Dashboard [Bovine TB: statistics | GOV.WALES](#).

You may wish to refine your request by narrowing its scope by being more specific about what information you particularly wish to obtain, including any dates or period of time relevant to the information required. If you do refine your request in this way, this will be treated as a new request.

Next steps

If you are dissatisfied with the Welsh Government's handling of your request, you can ask for an internal review within 40 working days of the date of this response. Requests for an internal review should be addressed to the Welsh Government's Freedom of Information Officer at:

Information Rights Unit,
Welsh Government,
Cathays Park,
Cardiff,
CF10 3NQ

or Email: Freedom.ofinformation@gov.wales

Please remember to quote the ATISN reference number above.

You also have the right to complain to the Information Commissioner. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

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

However, please note that the Commissioner will not normally investigate a complaint until it has been through our own internal review process.

Yours sincerely