

Freedom of Information (FOI) request

Received: 22 January 2025
Date: 19 February 2025
Ref: Sent by email from enquiries@theccc.org.uk
Published: www.theccc.org.uk/about/transparency

Your request:

Dear Sir/Madam,

Under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act, please supply the following information:

Context

In two recent media engagements on the 17th January 2025 (Daily Telegraph article 'Meatless Monday's not necessary, suggest climate experts' and Farming Today ,BBC) the Interim Chair of the UK Climate Change Committee Prof. Piers Forster confirmed that targets for reducing meat and dairy consumption were going to be changed in the February report on the Seventh Carbon Budget. He stated 'We are going to 'completely revisit the estimates' due to the fact that 'the evidence has changed'. This evidence is described as 'Things like genetics, breeding, we have heard about diets from livestock and the opportunities where we can begin to innovate'.

Request

We are requesting information about this new evidence. In your reply we would like you to provide the following:

- Copies of this new evidence.
- A list of who you have consulted about this new evidence: Specifically,
 - o A list of which farming bodies you have consulted with about this new evidence
 - o A list of experts and academics in the field of climate, farming, food systems you have consulted about this new evidence
 - o A list of representatives from civil society who work on environmental and food issues you have consulted about this new evidence

If this request is too broad, we can work with you to narrow the request down.

Many thanks in advance,

[name redacted]

Our response:

Thank you for your request. We have handled your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

We are refusing your request under Section 22 of the FOIA (information intended for future publication).

The CCC will be publishing its advice on the UK's Seventh Carbon Budget on 26 February 2025. This report will outline the evidence base used to reach our assumptions, including a list of who the CCC consulted with as part of this process.

Information disclosed in response to this FOIA request is releasable to the public. In keeping with the spirit and effect of the FOIA and the government's Transparency Agenda, this letter and the information disclosed to you may be placed on the CCC website, together with any related information that will provide a key to its wider context. No information identifying you will be placed on the CCC website.

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review. If you are not content with the outcome of the review, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. In keeping with our transparency policy, the information released to you will be published on www.theccc.org.uk. Please note that this publication will not include your personal data.

Kind regards,

Climate Change Committee