

**Central Services & Contingency
Planning**
Finance Division



Your reference: DAERA/22-22

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Finance Division
Ballykelly House
111 Ballykelly Road
Ballykelly
Limavady

4thFebruary 2022

Dear [REDACTED]

Freedom of Information Act 2000

With regard to your request for information received by the Department on 20th January 2022 which sought the following information:

Total number of cases, total value and itemisation of Losses and Special payments for 2018-19, 2019-20 and 2020-21.

I can advise that the Department has completed its search and can confirm that it holds the information you requested which is attached in Annex A and Annex B. The information contained within Annex A and Annex B is collated for the Department, Northern Ireland Environment Agency and the Northern Ireland Forest Service.

If you require any clarification, believe that any part of your request has been overlooked, misunderstood or misinterpreted, please contact me in the first instance to see if it is a matter that can be resolved.

If you are unhappy with the manner in which your request for information has been handled or the decision to release/withhold information, you have the right to request a formal review by the Department. If you wish to do so, please contact The Review Section either by e-mailing daera.informationmanager@daera-ni.gov.uk or by post at The Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs, Data Protection & Information Management Branch, Floor 2, Ballykelly House, 111 Ballykelly Road, Ballykelly, Limavady BT49 9HP, within two months from the date of this letter.

Sustainability at the heart of a living, working, active landscape valued by everyone.

If you are deaf or have a hearing difficulty you can contact the Department via the Next Generation Text Relay Service by dialling 18001 + telephone number.



If after such an internal review you are still unhappy with the response, you have the right to appeal to the Information Commissioner at Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, CHESHIRE, SK9 5AF, who will undertake an independent review of the Department's decision.

Yours sincerely,


Financial Reporting Branch

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DAERA Total Number of Losses and Special Payments

ANNEX A

Losses

	2020-21	2019-20	2018-19
Total Number of losses/cases	60	69	131
Total Value of Losses £'000	144	268	545

Special Payments

	2020-21	2019-20	2018-19
Total number special payments	10	9	8
Total value of special payments £'000	22	33	7

Itemisation of Losses and Special Payments

ANNEX B

Losses

	2020-21		2019-20		2018-19	
	Number of Cases	Value £	Number of Cases	Value £	Number of Cases	Value £
VAT	0	-	0	-	3	139,570
VAT payable on Invest NI Innovation Voucher	0	-	0	-	1	975
Voluntary Exit Scheme Overpayments	0	-	3	213	10	457
Salary Overpayments	0	-	0	-	2	3,133
Carrier Bag Levy	5	127	15	6,696	15	46
Student Fees	3	261	6	1,645	18	2,098
Further Education Grant	4	666	4	493	3	20
Rural Development Grant	1	219	5	104,295	3	144,582
Area-based Scheme Grant	21	36,620	27	80,458	52	202,166
Old Stock	4	6,900	1	5,589	0	-
Overpayment of TB/BR compensation	0	-	1	7,961	0	-
Forest Fires	7	75,000	2	27,949	2	21,614
Fraud & Theft	2	516	3	6,602	3	5,915
Missing Equipment	1	150	0	-	0	-
Bad Debts	10	7,882	2	25,778	19	24,416
Damaged Vehicles	2	16,000	0	-	0	-
TOTAL LOSSES	60	144,341	69	267,679	131	544,992

Special Payments

	2020-21		2019-20		2018-19	
	Number of Cases	Value £	Number of Cases	Value £	Number of Cases	Value £
Payment for Departmental Error	0	-	0	-	5	6,306
Gifts to Visiting Chinese Officials	0	-	0	-	3	220
Death of ewe	0	-	1	135	0	-
Employee injury claim	0	-	2	25,619	0	-
Damage to vehicle	0	-	1	237	0	-
Damage to boat	0	-	1	4,002	0	-
Rural Development Grant	0	-	1	467	0	-
Area-based Scheme Grant	0	-	1	2,849	0	-
Payment for Departmental error	0	-	2	125	0	-
Interest on monies owed	1	4,077	0	-	0	-
Payment for money wrongly recouped	6	2,217	0	-	0	-
Security system	1	3,268	0	-	0	-
Compensation	2	12,000	0	-	0	-
TOTAL SPECIAL PAYMENTS	10	21,562	9	33,434	8	6,526