

16 FEB 2018



OIA18-0047

Gary Stephenson
c/- FYI website

Dear Gary Stephenson

TRANSFER OF YOUR REQUEST FOR OFFICIAL INFORMATION

I refer to your official information request on 24 January 2018 relating to the following:

- 1. Please advise what protocols are in place to test pet rabbits that have died from RHDV or suspected RHDV especially those who have been vaccinated with the Cylap vaccine which protects against RHDV1-V351 and is said to protect against RHDV1a-K5 to ensure Cylap is affording the protection stated against RHDV1a-K5.*
- 2. Please advise what protocols are in place to test kits/babies under the age of 12 weeks who gain immunity from RHDV1 from their mothers that have died from RHDV or suspected RHDV to ensure immunity against RHDV1a-K5 is being passed on from their mothers and also that RHDV2 has not arrived*
- 3. Please advise what protocols are in place to test pet rabbits that have died from RHDV or suspected RHDV in unusual circumstances, vaccinated, large numbers, mixed ages, adults/kits, single-sex only deaths.*
- 4. What action will be taken if vaccine immunity or mother to kit immunity does not occur as stated?*
- 5. What actions will be taken if RHDV2 is found to have arrived, how quickly will a vaccine available from Europe be approved?*
- 6. What actions are in place to advise Veterinary Surgeons and owners on what to do if they suspect their pet rabbit has died of RHDV in order to ascertain the strain of RHDV?*
- 7. What education is in place to advise veterinary surgeons of the correct vaccination protocol for the Cylap vaccine?*

This letter is to advise you that the Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI) is transferring parts 1,2,3,4,6,7 of your request to Environment Canterbury under section 14 of the Official Information Act 1982. These parts of your request are being transferred because the information you are seeking, I believe, is more closely connected with the functions of Environment Canterbury. You will still receive a decision on part 5 of your request from MPI.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A Speir'.

Andrea Speir
Manager, Ministerials and Business Support (Acting)