

**AFBI Privacy Notice (Disease Surveillance & Investigation Branch)  
Diagnostic/Analytical Testing, Disease Surveillance & Research**

Data Controller Name: AFBI Address: VSD, 12 Stoney Road, Belfast, BT4 3SD Telephone: 028 90525618 Email: <a href="mailto:info@afbini.gov.uk">info@afbini.gov.uk</a>	Data Protection Officer Name: Glenn Montgomery Telephone: 028 9025 5494 Email: <a href="mailto:foi.officer@afbini.gov.uk">foi.officer@afbini.gov.uk</a>
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**Why are you processing my personal information?**

Your personal information is stored by us (AFBI Disease Surveillance & Investigation Branch, DSIB) if either you, your private veterinary practitioner (PVP) or a third party, such as the Department of Agriculture, Environment or Rural Affairs (DAERA) has submitted samples or a carcass from your farm/business for diagnostic testing to either the AFBI Stormont or AFBI Omagh laboratories.

All samples submitted to us for testing must be accompanied by the appropriate AFBI submission form, all of which are available on the AFBI [website](#). This submission form represents the contract between the submitter and us to provide the testing service requested and we will lawfully process your personal data provided for the performance of this contract.

To meet our disease surveillance obligations on behalf of DAERA, we may also use samples submitted for diagnostic testing for further disease surveillance or scientific research. This includes looking for new or emerging diseases or infectious agents and monitoring changes in disease patterns. We have the authority to process your personal information related to these samples in this manner for the completion of our [public task function](#) of undertaking scientific work as legislated under the Agriculture (Northern Ireland) Order 2004.

**What categories of personal data are you processing?**

When provided on the submission form, we collect your name, address, herd/flock number, business ID, email address, landline and mobile telephone numbers. Where necessary, we also collect specialist identification information about your herd or flock such as herd number and animal identification numbers from APHIS/NIFAIS and BVD disease data from AHWNI. We also process information regarding disease testing and previous results from your herd.

## Where do you get my personal data from?

AFBI will receive some or all of the following:

1. personal data (names, addresses, contact numbers, herd numbers, business IDs) directly from you the herd owner or submitting PVP/third party.
2. animal data (animal IDs, dates of birth) extracted from APHIS/NIFAIS via the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA) or directly from the herd owner or submitting PVP; and
3. BVD disease data (animal tags, test results) from the national BVD eradication programme run by AHWNI.

## Do you share my personal data with anyone else?

Under normal circumstances, your personal data including test results will be shared with you and/or the submitting PVP; either directly, or if requested by the PVP, via a third party service such as VetImpress (administered by Farm Vet Limited).

We are legally obliged to share the personal data of owners with DAERA for NI animals found positive for notifiable diseases.

When required, we may share your information with the Police Service of Northern Ireland (PSNI) and other crime agencies for the prevention or detection of crime.

As a public body we are also obliged to comply with information requests under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 or the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 where such disclosure is in the public interest, but we shall always ensure your rights under Data Protection legislation are respected.

### **BVD eradication - NI, ROI & Scotland**

We may share your personal information with the regulatory body (AHWNI, ICBF or ScotEID) to resolve queries related to the relevant BVD Eradication programme and will upload test results along with individual animal IDs and/or herd numbers to the national databases as obliged under legislation.

Refer to the regulatory body websites for details on how their privacy policies and how they handle your information:

AHWNI:

[http://www.animalhealthni.com/AHWNI%20Privacy%20Statementv1\[48208\].pdf](http://www.animalhealthni.com/AHWNI%20Privacy%20Statementv1[48208].pdf)

ICBF: <https://www.icbf.com/wp/>

ScotEID: <https://www.scoteid.com>

BVD results for animals not legally required to be tested may also be sent to AHWNI if the herd owner agrees to the sharing of the data (refer to AHWNI guidance: <http://www.animalhealthni.com/Compulsory%20Phase/FAQ/Results%20v2.pdf>).

### **BVD eradication – England & Wales**

We will share personal details supplied on the accompanying sample submission forms with your tag supplier to facilitate the reporting of results to you and/or your PVP.

Any personal information is encrypted before sending to external parties to ensure its security.

AFBI is a designated laboratory for the BVDFree England (industry-led voluntary) eradication scheme and will transfer personal information and test results to the BVDFree database where instructed to do so. Refer to the BVDFree Ltd Privacy notice for further details of how your personal information will be processed: <https://bvdfree.org.uk/privacy-notice/>

### **Do you transfer my personal data to other countries?**

Your personal data will not be transferred to other countries outside of the European Economic Area.

### **How long do you keep my personal data?**

We will retain your personal data for 7 years to meet legal requirements. Where possible, we will then anonymise the data; however, under Schedule 2, Part 6, of the UK Data Protection Act 2018, AFBI reserves the right to hold your personal information indefinitely when it is required for scientific research or statistical purposes. If this is the case, we will ensure that the appropriate technical and organisational measures are in place to safeguard your data where necessary and respect the principle of data minimisation. We shall not publish any results in a manner where you may be identified.

### **What rights do I have?**

- You have the right to obtain confirmation that your data is being [processed, and access to your personal data](#),
- You are entitled to have personal data [rectified if it is inaccurate or incomplete](#)
- You have a right to have personal data erased and to prevent processing, [in specific circumstances](#)

- You have the right to ‘block’ or suppress processing of personal data, [in specific circumstances](#)
- You have the right to data portability, [in specific circumstances](#)
- You have the right to object to the processing, [in specific circumstances](#)
- You have rights in relation to [automated decision making and profiling](#)

### How do I complain if I am not happy?

If you are unhappy with any aspect of this privacy notice, or how your personal information is being processed, please contact AFBI’s Data Protection Officer at:

*AFBI HQ, 18a Newforge Lane, Belfast, BT9 5PX; [foi.officer@afbini.gov.uk](mailto:foi.officer@afbini.gov.uk)*

If you are still not happy, you have the right to lodge a complaint with the Information Commissioner’s Office (ICO):

Information Commissioner’s  
Office  
Wycliffe House  
Water Lane  
Wilmslow  
Cheshire  
SK9 5AF

Tel: 0303 123 1113

Email: [casework@ico.org.uk](mailto:casework@ico.org.uk)

<https://ico.org.uk/global/contact-us/>