



Animal &
Plant Health
Agency

Animal and Plant Health Agency
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Our Ref: ATIC2467

[REDACTED]
{By Email}

8 September 2021

Dear [REDACTED]

PROVISION OF REQUESTED INFORMATION

Thank you for your request for information about cat imports, which APHA received on 10 August 2021 . Your request has been handled under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) 2000.

The information you requested and our response is detailed below:

“Data recorded:

1. What data do you currently collect about cats legally entering the UK under the Pet Travel Scheme? (e.g. age, breed, microchip number, country of origin, if the cat is declawed)

APHA do not hold or record data on cats legally entering the UK under the Pet Travel Scheme. However please see the attached link regarding Pet Travel published on gov.uk, which details the rules on pet travel into Great Britain.

[Bringing your pet dog, cat or ferret to Great Britain - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](http://www.gov.uk/government/guidance/bringing-your-pet-dog-cat-or-ferret-to-great-britain)

Cats seized:

2. How many cats were seized at the UK border for the years 2020 and 2019?

2019 – 14 cats

2020 – 36 cats

3. Which countries did the seized cats arrive from in 2020 and 2019?

APHA can confirm the countries were Bulgaria, Germany, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Moldova, Poland, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovakia and the Ukraine.

4. What were the reasons that cats were seized in 2020 and 2019?

APHA can advise that when dogs, cats and ferrets have been imported and non-compliances are identified, enforcement action is taken under two different areas of legislation, the Rabies (Importation Of Dogs, Cats and Other Mammals) Order (RIO), and TARP.

The purpose of the Rabies (Importation Of Dogs, Cats and Other Mammals) Order (RIO) is to prevent the spread of rabies by regulating the import of animals. Any animal landed that is not fully compliant with the Pet Travel requirements, the Balai Directive (Council Directive 92/65/EC) or a landing licence issued under the RIO is treated as an illegal import and dealt with by the Local Authority.

The Trade in Animals and Related Products Regulations 2011 (TARP) is the domestic legislation transposed from EU Law. Non-compliance under TARP could include non-notification to the receiving office of an import, absence of or invalid Health Certificate or failure to deliver to the stated destination on the notification.

5. What percentage of those cats seized were sick and needed veterinary treatment in both 2019 and 2020? Please specify what treatment they required if possible.

APHA do not hold this information.

6. How many cats that were seized entering the UK in both 2019 and 2020 were pregnant?

APHA can confirm that no cats were pregnant.

7. How many cats that were seized entering the UK were under six months old in the year 2020 and 2019?

APHA can confirm that 17 cats were under six months old.

Cats entering the UK legally under the Pet Travel Scheme:

8. How many cats that entered the UK legally under the Pet Travel Scheme were pregnant in the year 2020 and 2019?

As with question 1, APHA do not hold or record this information.

9. How many cats that entered the UK legally under the Pet Travel Scheme were under six months old in the year 2020 and 2019?

As with question 1 and 8, APHA do not hold or record this information.

Breeds:

10. What percentage of all cats entering the UK, broken down into legal entry and seized on illegal attempted entry, in 2019 and 2020 were the following breeds: Choose from following breeds

APHA do not hold or record data on cats entering the UK legally. The information listed below refers to illegal entries only.

Breed	2020	2019
British Shorthair	4	0
Ragdoll	0	0
Maine Coon	7	4
Siamese	1	1
Burmese	0	0
Persian	0	1
Oriental Shorthair	2	1
Birman	0	0
Russian	0	0
Scottish Fold	9	1
Savannah	0	0
Chausie	0	0
Bristols	0	0
Sphynx	2	0
Bengal	4	2
Don't know	n/a	n/a
Other	6	4

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

An Annex is attached which explains the copyright that applies to the information being released to you and contact details should you be unhappy with the service you have received.

If you have any queries about this letter, please contact the Access to Information Team at the email address below or postal address at the top of this letter.

Postal requests during the COVID-19 outbreak

APHA are currently experiencing delays in replying to post received. You should send queries to the relevant email address (details below) wherever possible. Please remember to include a return email address.

Yours sincerely

ACCESS TO INFORMATION TEAM

Email: enquiries@apha.gov.uk

Annex

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Complaints

If you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request, you may make a complaint or appeal against our decision under section 17(7) of the FOIA or under regulation 11 of the EIRs, as applicable, within 40 working days of the date of this letter. Please write to the Access to Information Manager at the address at the top of this letter or email enquiries@apha.gov.uk and the team will arrange for an internal review of your case.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, section 50 of the FOIA and regulation 18 of the EIRs gives you the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) for a decision. Please note that generally the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have first exhausted APHA's own complaints procedure. The ICO can be contacted at:

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

Coronavirus

If you need to contact the ICO during the Coronavirus pandemic, it's best to do so online. Please click [here](#) for contact details. You can also call them on 0303 123 1113.