



Animal &  
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Agency

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Our Ref: ATIC2895

[REDACTED]

{By Email}

24 October 2022

Dear [REDACTED]

## **PROVISION OF REQUESTED INFORMATION**

Thank you for your request for information on Avian Influenza, which APHA received on 05 October 2022. Your request has been handled under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) 2000.

The information you requested and the response is detailed below.

We have broken down and responded to each part of your request separately.

“I am writing to make an application for information, under the Freedom of Information Act (2000), relating to incidents in the UK of Avian Influenza (AI) in pheasants and partridges, as follows:”

- “The number of suspected avian flu (AI) outbreaks which have been reported on premises that house pheasants and/or partridges”

There were 17 report cases for premises which housed pheasants / partridges between 01 October 2021 and 30 September 2022.

- “The number of confirmed outbreaks of AI which have been reported on premises that house pheasants and/or partridges”

There are 13 confirmed Infected Premises (IP's) that housed pheasants and/or partridges between 01 October 2021 and 30 September 2022.

- “The approximate (or exact, if held) number of pheasants culled following confirmation of AI.”

Number of Pheasants Culled following confirmation of AI: 11000

- “The approximate (or exact, if held) number of partridges culled following confirmation of AI”

Number of Partridges Culled following confirmation of AI: 599

- “The approximate (or exact, if held) number of pheasants and partridges, outside of game farms, reported to have AI”

Number of pheasants/partridges outside of Game Farms reported to have AI : 16

- “The approximate (or exact, if held) number of pheasants and partridges, outside of game farms, culled due to suspected or confirmed AI”

Number of pheasants/partridges culled outside of Game Farms : 139

- The approximate (or exact, if held) number of pheasants or partridges, imported to the UK, found to have symptoms of AI
- The approximate (or exact, if held) number of pheasants or partridges, imported to the UK, culled due to suspected or confirmed AI

This information is not held by APHA.

### Section 16 (Help and Advice)

APHA would only know if they had died of AI if this was on an Infected Premises (IP) and the importation date was within the source window. Pheasants die quickly of AI and they are unlikely to be imported infected but clinically inapparent.

- !”The method of killing at each premises e.g. killed onsite using "containerised gassing"; "whole house gassing"; "ventilation shutdown"; individual bird killing by neck dislocation, electrical stunning or other method; or birds sent for culling at a slaughterhouse “

Please see table below:

Case ref	Numbers Culled	Culling Method
AIV/2021/26	86	Non-Penetrating Captive Bolt
AIV/2021/36	9	Non-Penetrating Captive Bolt
AIV/2021/43	3	Containerised Gassing Unit
AIV/2021/46	7	Cervical Dislocation
AIV/2022/13	1	Non-Penetrating Captive Bolt
AIV/2022/21	5166	Non-Penetrating Captive Bolt & cervical dislocation

AIV/2022/22	3163	Non-Penetrating Captive Bolt & cervical dislocation
AIV/2022/24	16	Non-Penetrating Captive Bolt
AIV/2022/25	10	Cervical Dislocation
AIV/2022/36	6	Containerised Gassing Unit
AIV/2022/64	1090	Firearm with Free Projectile
AIV/2022/68	2041	Containerised Gassing Unit & Cervical Dislocation
AIV/2022/77	1	Containerised Gassing Unit

- Copies of any welfare records / observations made by APHA officials / vets or other official observers to the culling operations

The information you have requested in your final question has been exempted from release citing Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) 2000.

## Section 12

Section 12(1) of the FOIA allows APHA to refuse a request for information if we estimate that the cost of complying with the request would exceed the appropriate limit, which currently stands at £600 (£25 per hour). On the basis of our estimates, we consider that the cost would far exceed this limit and, as such, we are refusing your request.

In order to meet this request we would need to locate and examine the paperwork for each archived IP, the larger sites are likely to have more paperwork due to the larger culling operations. These are likely to be across multiple delivery areas. In order to achieve this APHA estimate that it will take at least 1 admin person approx. 2 hour per IP (depending on the amount of paperwork - this time could increase significantly). We estimate that this will take at least one person a minimum of 4 days to provide (likely longer as some of the larger IP's could have much more paperwork than others).

APHA consider that your request falls under regulation 12(2) on cost grounds in determining whether all the information is held. Having carried out the above investigation, we have concluded that, in all the circumstances of the case, the public interest falls in favour of applying the exemption.

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.

Yours sincerely

**ACCESS TO INFORMATION TEAM**

Email: [enquiries@apha.gov.uk](mailto: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](mailto: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

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