



Animal &
Plant Health
Agency

Animal and Plant Health Agency
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Our Ref: ATIC1503

[REDACTED]
{By Email}

14 November 2018

Dear [REDACTED]

PROVISION OF REQUESTED INFORMATION

Thank you for your request for information about live animal exports which we received on 22 October 2018. Your request has been handled under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOI).

The information you requested and our response is detailed below:

“FOI Freedom of Information Request - Live animal export via Ramsgate Port Tuesday 16 October 2018

I am requesting under this FOI. The loading and inspection reports together with the Ramsgate Portal APHA inspection report including time of first Calf loading, on the following listed Transporter. In addition I am requesting the number of persons registered under the APHA inspection as a licenced driver or licenced attendant for this Transporter.

A. 162 DL 839 “

Please see Appendix 1 and 2 for the reports you have requested.

One driver was in attendance at time of loading, and this information is listed on the enclosed WIT32 document

Information has been redacted under Section 38(1), Section 40(2), read in conjunction with 40(3)(a)(i) of the Freedom of Information Act (2000).

Section 38

Section 38(1) refers to the exemption from the duty to provide information if it would, or would be likely to affect anyone's health or safety.

The Animal and Plant Health Agency is an Executive Agency of the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs working to safeguard animal and plant health for the benefit of people, the environment and the economy.

The exemption in Section 38(1) is subject to a Public Interest Test to ensure it is being appropriately applied.

Public Interest Test

We recognise that there is a general presumption in favour of transparency and openness concerning our work, and providing the general public with the right to request access to information held by public authorities.

We also recognise that there is a public interest in disclosure of this specific information in order to increase this transparency and aid well-informed debates concerning the welfare and transportation of animals, and the individuals associated with them.

However, we feel that there is a stronger public interest in withholding the information as the full addresses, including the county of origin, the destination and/or rest stops, transporter details and individual names would identify further information and would, or would be likely to, endanger the health and safety of individuals and staff. This poses a substantial risk to the health and safety of individuals associated with the transportation of animals that would be of significant severity and is likely to occur in some cases. We consider this to be a significant factor in favour of maintaining the exemption. APHA has balanced the real threat to the health and safety of individuals which disclosure of the requested information would be likely to cause, against the public interest arguments in favour of disclosure. In this instance the APHA does not consider that disclosing the information requested in order to inform public debate and to promote accountability and transparency would justify the risk to individuals' health and safety.

Section 40

Some of the information contained within the requested documents have been withheld under section 40(2), read in conjunction with 40(3)(a)(i) (third party personal data), of the FOIA as the information constitutes personal data relating to a third party. Section 40(2), read in conjunction with 40(3)(a)(i), of the FOIA provides that personal data relating to third parties is exempt information if disclosure would breach the Data Protection Act 1998 (DPA).

APHA consider that disclosure of this information is likely to breach the first data protection principle in Schedule 1 of the DPA, which relates to the fair and lawful processing of personal data, in two ways. First, disclosure would not constitute 'fair' processing of the personal data, second, disclosure would not satisfy any of the conditions for data processing set out in Schedule 2 to the DPA. Therefore, we have concluded that this information is exempt from disclosure under section 40 of the FOIA.

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.

I attach an Annex 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.gsi.gov.uk

Annex

Copyright

The information supplied to you is Crown copyright, unless otherwise stated, and is protected by the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988. You are free to use it for your own purposes, including for the purposes of news reporting. You can find details on the arrangements for re-using Crown copyright information at:

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Complaints

If you are unhappy with the result of your request for information you may request an internal review within 40 working days of the date of this letter.

If you wish to request an internal review, please contact: The Access to Information Team at enquiries@apha.gsi.gov.uk or at the postal address at the top of this letter, who will arrange for an internal review of your case.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. Please note that generally the Information Commissioner cannot make a decision unless you have first exhausted APHA's own complaints procedure. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

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