

Animal and Plant Health Agency
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{By Email}

Our Ref: ATIC0811

17 March 2016

Dear

## PROVISION OF REQUESTED INFORMATION

Thank you for your clarified request for information about dog imports from Cyprus, which we received on 29 February 2016. Your request has been handled under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

The information you requested and our response is detailed below:

"As briefly discussed, we are currently in pre-production on a proposed documentary of the import of dogs from Cyprus. To that end, would you be able to provide me with statistics on dogs entering the UK in the past 12 months. I would be grateful if you could provide me with the following statistics.

- 1) Total number imported from Cyprus to UK
- Number imported by each region of Cyprus
- 2) Total number refused entry
- 3) Estimate of illegal entry numbers

Ideally I would like to have at least 1 & 2 by the 4th of March, which is our next production meeting."

Clarity was then sought:

"In response to your questions and to clarify, we are seeking statistics on:

- 1) Pet travel imports
- 2) From both Northern and Southern Cyprus"

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.

## "Apologies,

Rescued dogs are classed as trade and not as pets, therefore we would require statistics on Trade for Southern and Northern Cyprus."

From 1 March 2015 to 29 February 2016 (date of the request), there were 2382 dogs imported under the Balai (trade) requirements from Southern Cyprus. This data has been extracted from TRACES through the data warehouse facility by searching for imports of canis familiaris. These figures cover all commercially imported dogs including commercial puppies, rescue dogs, research dogs and unaccompanied pets.

From 1 March 2015 to 29 February 2016 (date of the request), there are no commercial imports of dogs from Northern Cyprus. Under the Balai requirements dogs from countries not listed in accordance with Commission Decision 2013/519/EU are not allowed to be imported into the EU. Northern Cyprus is not a listed country under this decision, and therefore dogs cannot be imported commercially from there.

From the period 1 March 2015 to 29 February 2016 (date of the request) there were 18 dogs quarantined from Southern Cyprus and 2 from Northern Cyprus. APHA cannot separate out the commercial consignments from the pets as we do not record this information. These animals were quarantined because they were found not to be compliant with the pet requirements (which they must still meet even if it is a commercial consignment).

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: <a href="mailto:enquiries@apha.gsi.gov.uk">enquiries@apha.gsi.gov.uk</a>

#### **Annex**

# Copyright

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In keeping with the spirit and effect of the Freedom of Information Act 2000/Environmental Information Regulations 2004, all information is assumed to be releasable to the public unless exempt. The information released to you may now be published on our website together with any related information that will provide a key to its wider context.

## **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 <a href="mailto:enquiries@apha.gsi.gov.uk">enquiries@apha.gsi.gov.uk</a> 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