



Animal &
Plant Health
Agency

Animal and Plant Health Agency
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[REDACTED]
{By Email}

Our Ref: ATIC1115

12 July 2017

Dear [REDACTED]

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

Thank you for your request for information about dog imports which we received on 21 June 2017. Your request has been handled under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

The information you requested and our response is detailed below:

“I should be most grateful if you would provide the following information under the FOIA:

The Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA) is an Executive Agency of the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs. For information on the Pet Travel Scheme (PETS), APHA only holds records for Great Britain (GB) (England, Scotland and Wales).

Information for Northern Ireland should be requested from the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs: <https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/>

APHA additionally has access to UK statistical data from the EU Commission's Trade Control and Expert System (TRACES) system, for commercial imports and exports. The information extracted from here is a true reflection of the information that we have access to. APHA cannot guarantee the accuracy of this data, as we can only rely on the information that has been input into TRACES by a third party.

The data for commercial dog imports was 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. In some cases imports were recorded on TRACES as “*Canis familiaris/Felis catus*”, so we could not tell if these were cat or dog imports. These are included the spreadsheets in column “Mixed dogs/cats.”

1. Numbers of dogs leaving the UK per annum (calendar year) with a pet passport for each of 2014, 2015 and 2016.

Following a search of our paper and electronic records, the information that you have requested here is not held by APHA as we do not record information relating to the number of pets travelling from GB with a passport under the Pet Travel Scheme (PETS).

2. Numbers of dogs entering the UK per annum (calendar year) with a pet passport for each of 2014, 2015 and 2016

The number of dogs entering the UK with a pet passport under the Pet Travel Scheme (PETS) for 2014, 2015 and 2016 is available on GOV.UK via the following link:

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/616302/ATIC1085.pdf

As this piece of information is reasonably accessible to you by other means, it is exempt from disclosure under section 21 FOIA.

3. The net number of dogs (ie immigrants minus emigrants) recorded as entering the UK each year for each of 2014, 2015 and 2016, for each of
 - a) those entering as pets, and

Following a search of our paper and electronic records, the information that you have requested here is not held by APHA. This is for the same reason stated above regarding data not held on pets travelling out under the Pet Travel Scheme (PETS).

- b) those entering as commercial imports for sale.

Dogs exported under TRACES:

- 2014 = 72
- 2015 = 308
- 2016 = 470

Please see Appendix 1 for dogs imported under TRACES for 2014, 2015 and 2016.

Any mathematical calculations can be taken from these figures.

4. A breakdown by country source (eg Ireland, other EU states, third countries) for number of dogs entering the UK under commercial import regulations for each of 2014, 2015 and 2016 (calendar year)."

Please see [this information at Appendix 1](#).

Information disclosed in response to this FOI request is releasable to the public. In keeping with the spirit and effect of the FOIA 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.

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Yours sincerely

ACCESS TO INFORMATION TEAM

Email: enquiries@apha.gsi.gov.uk

Annex

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