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www.gov.uk/apha

Our Ref: ATIC1101

{By Email}

21 June 2017

Dear

## **PROVISION OF REQUESTED INFORMATION**

Thank you for your request for information about horse transportation which we received on 23 May 2017. Your request has been handled under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

The information you requested and our response is detailed below:

• "How many short (Type 1) and long (Type 2) journey Transporter Authorisations have been issued to equine transporters each year since 5 Jan 2007?

The number of Type 1 and Type 2 Transporter Authorisations issued to Equine Transporters for the years 2016 and 2017 (up to 23 May 2017- date of your request):

|      | Type 1 | Type 2 |
|------|--------|--------|
| 2016 | 343    | 53     |
| 2017 | 1540   | 66     |

APHA have only recorded the species that Transporter Authorisations are authorised to carry since 2016 on local records. Transporter Authorisations are issued using the AMES database and the species that a transporter is authorised to carry is a selection on the authorisation document within the AMES database. This was a non-reportable field so APHA cannot provide any data for this request for any Transporter Authorisations issued prior to 2016. The data could be obtained by viewing every individual record on AMES but this would require sight of more than 30,000 records.

Section 12(1) of the FOIA allows us 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, and equates to 24 hours of staff

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.

time. On the basis of our estimates, we consider answering this part of your request would exceed this limit and, as such, we are refusing your request.

You may wish to consider narrowing down this part of the request to focus more clearly on a significantly shorter period of time.

If you were to make a new request for a narrower category of information, it may be that we could comply with that request within the appropriate limit, although we cannot guarantee that this will be the case.

• For members of the general public who wish to choose a reputable equine transporter, is it possible to obtain a list from DEFRA of all transporters holding valid Transport Authorisation?

APHA are responsible for Transporter Authorisations, under the auspices of Defra. We cannot provide a list of transporters holding a valid Transporter Authorisation. Upon receipt of a written enquiry giving the name, address and any other relevant details that pertain to the transporter authorisation, APHA can confirm if a transporter's authorisation is currently valid.

- From records held in the AMES database, could you provide the following information specifically for equines & since 5 Jan 2007:
  - how many compliance checks have been performed each year under the WAT(E)O 2006 Regulation?

Following a search of our paper and electronic records, I have established that the information that you have requested is not held by APHA. This is because we only hold records for when non-compliance has been recorded.

- how many incidences & types of non-compliance have been recorded each year?
- Summary of the type of enforcement action taken for non-compliance incidences each year?"

Please see Appendix 1 for the information requested in these two bullet points.

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.

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

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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 <u>enquiries@apha.gsi.gov.uk</u> 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

# APPENDIX 1

APHA have run the reports on AMES from 5 January 2007 to 31 December 2012, and there are no records of non-compliances or checks for equines in this time period. For the remaining period please see the table below:

| Number of non-compliances per year  | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017<br>(to 23 May 2017) | Notice<br>served                                      |
|---|------|------|------|------|--------------------------|---|
| Inspection of road vehicle in transit (WP82)                                    | 2    | 2    | 5    | 1    |                          | WT03 WATO<br>served (x9)<br>Oral advice<br>given (x1) |
| Inspection of road vehicle at market / show (WP83)                              |      |      |      | 1    |                          | Oral advice<br>given                                  |
| Inspection of road vehicle at<br>destination (non-<br>slaughterhouse)<br>(WP84) |      | 1    |      |      |                          | WT03 WATO<br>served                                   |