



Animal &
Plant Health
Agency

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[REDACTED]
{By Email}

Our Ref: ATIC1026

27 February 2017

Dear [REDACTED]

PROVISION OF REQUESTED INFORMATION

Thank you for your request for information about live animal exports which we received on 3 February 2017. Your request has been handled under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

The information you requested and our response is detailed below:

“1. I am compiling and analysing statistics relating to the long distance transportation on journeys exceeding 8 hours, of live sheep and cattle of all age groups from and between England, Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland, The Republic of Ireland and all other E.U. states combined. The timeframe in question, to which I will refer my enquiries, is the years 2014, 2015 and 2016 up to 31st October 2016. My understanding of the administration of EU 1/2005 and its associated British legislation is that the responsibility for this lies with the Animal & Plant Health Agency for England and that the devolved administrations of Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland each have their own APHA which administers within their own area, but that the records relating to the transportation of live animals are kept by and are available from your office for all of the administrative bodies. Is this correct? If not, from where are the details of transportation in each area obtainable?

2. Do you hold all the details which I ask for?

3. If not, who does hold the details requested which you cannot supply?

4. If you are unable to provide the detailed answers to my questions will you explain why and will you advise me as to how I might obtain the answers I seek?

[The Animal and Plant Health Agency \(APHA\) is an Executive Agency of the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs. For your FOI request, APHA holds records of](#)

the transportation of live animals that originated from premises in Great Britain (England, Scotland and Wales).

APHA has access to UK wide statistical data from the EU Commission's Trade Control and Expert System (TRACES) Data Warehouse reporting tool. Any UK to EU trade figures collated from the TRACES Data Warehouse includes trade to Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland (European Free Trade Association (EFTA) countries) who accept EU trade.

APHA only produce export health certification for Great Britain (England Scotland and Wales).

The TRACES Data Warehouse cannot report on whether a consignment has been exported for breeding, production/fattening or slaughter. All enclosed data specific to numbers of animals consigned for breeding, production/fattening or slaughter have been taken from APHA's records and are for trade from Great Britain only.

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

Information for the Republic of Ireland should be requested from the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine in Ireland: <https://www.agriculture.gov.ie/>

Other EU states should be contacted individually.

5. To assist you, and for the sake of accuracy I now list some particulars of which I am aware

a) Live sheep exported from the U.K. to E.U. countries in 2016 up to October 31st – 385424, live cattle to E.U. countries 33861

b) Will you please provide me with the same information relating to 2014 and 2015?

Sheep

2014 = 401754

2015 = 361171

Cattle

2014 = 36331

2015 = 30767

Data is UK based and was produced from the TRACES Data Warehouse.

6. During the whole of the 'time in question' were any live sheep or cattle transported to any countries outside of the European Union?

No.

7. If so, how many of each category and by what method of transportation?

N/A

8. For the year up to 31st October 2016 how many of the sheep transported to the Republic of Ireland were destined for slaughter? How many for further fattening? How many for breeding purposes?

Slaughter = 437

Fattening = 17

Breeding = 307

Data is GB based and was produced from APHA's records.

9. For the year up to 31st October 2016 how many of the sheep transported to other E.U. states were destined for slaughter? How many for further fattening? How many for breeding purposes?

Slaughter = 3817

Fattening = 36910

Breeding = 3177

Data is GB based and was produced from APHA's records.

10. Can you supply figures for cattle as per the questions 8 and 9?

Republic of Ireland

Slaughter = 68

Production = 18

Breeding = 866

Other EU Member States

Slaughter = 0

Production = 3331

Breeding = 1385

Data is GB based and was produced from APHA's records.

11. During the 'time in question' has there been any transportation of live sheep or cattle within or exiting the U.K. for more than 8 hours, by any other method other than road transport and Roll On-Roll Off ferries?

No.

12. During the 'time in question' in each period, how many cattle and sheep have been transported to Northern Ireland from England, Wales & Scotland?

Sheep

2014 = 8096

2015 = 7313

1 January to 31 October 2016 = 9394

Cattle

2014 = 4645

2015 = 6880

1 January to 31 October 2016 = 5131

Data is GB based and was produced from APHA's records.

13. Of the sheep and cattle transported under question 12, what proportions were destined for slaughter, further fattening and breeding?

Sheep

2014 = 1033 slaughter, 0 fattening, 7063 breeding

2015 = 275 slaughter, 0 fattening, 7038 breeding

1 January to 31 October 2016 = 840 slaughter, 0 fattening, 8554 breeding

Cattle

2014 = 3404 slaughter, 182 production, 1059 breeding

2015 = 2465 slaughter, 350 production, 4065 breeding

1 January to 31 October 2016 = 3935 slaughter, 264 production, 932 breeding

Data is GB based and was produced from APHA's records.

14. How many of the sheep and cattle undergoing transportation to Northern Ireland in question 12 were being transported through Northern Ireland as part of a journey to the Irish Republic?

Sheep

2014 = 120

2015 = 763

1 January to 31 October 2016 = 559

Cattle

2014 = 244

2015 = 343

1 January to 31 October 2016 = 820

Data is GB based and was produced from APHA's records where a Journey Log was required. A Journey Log is not needed if one or more of these statements apply:

- the journey is under eight hours
- the transport is not taking place as part of an economic activity
- the animals being transported are either registered horses or species other than cattle, sheep, goats or pigs
- the animals are pet animals accompanied by their owner on a private journey
- individual animals accompanied by their owner or another responsible person, up to a maximum of four animals accompanied by four individuals, with the written agreement of any Member States they are being transported either through or to.

Please note this data is for consignments of sheep and cattle for export to Republic of Ireland where the consignment travelled via Northern Ireland. The data in questions 12 and 13 are for exports to Northern Ireland only and do not include any exports transiting Northern Ireland to a destination premises in the Republic of Ireland. Information on GB sheep and cattle exported to Northern Ireland as a final destination, which have subsequently been exported from Northern Ireland to the Republic of Ireland as part of a separate export consignment, should be requested from the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs: <https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/>

15. During the 'time in question' and for each period, how many sheep and how many cattle were transported to other E.U. states (apart from the Republic of Ireland)?

Sheep

2014 = 38247

2015 = 31193

1 January to 31 October 2016 = 43904.

Cattle

2014 = 1928

2015 = 879

1 January to 31 October 2016 = 4716.

Data is GB based and was produced from APHA's records.

16. In each case, what was the breakdown for slaughter, further fattening and breeding?

Sheep

2014 = 1630 slaughter, 34468 fattening, 2149 breeding

2015 = 2323 slaughter, 26460 fattening, 2410 breeding

1 January to 31 October 2016 = 3817 slaughter, 36910 production, 3177 breeding.

Cattle

2014 = 207 slaughter, 252 production, 1469 breeding

2015 = 0 slaughter, 2 production, 877 breeding

1 January to 31 October 2016 = 0 slaughter, 1385 production, 3331 breeding.

Data is GB based and was produced from APHA's records.

17. For the year up to 31st October 2106, of those sheep transported to the Republic of Ireland how many were destined to be slaughtered in another E.U. state or transported to a country outside the E.U.?

18. Please apply the same question in question 17 relating to cattle transported to the Republic of Ireland.

For questions 17 and 18, following a search of our paper and electronic records, the information that you have requested is not held by APHA. We can confirm that to the best of our knowledge the information is held by Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine in Ireland:

<https://www.agriculture.gov.ie/>

19. It is my understanding that most if not all of this information can be extracted from the journey logs which have to be returned when each journey has been completed. Is this correct? Are the statistics I seek held anywhere else? If so, please advise where that might be."

Journey Logs are not required for every export consignment of sheep and cattle, please see explanation at question 14. The answer to each question above states where the

data has been collated from. If APHA do not hold the data, the answers state who the information can be requested from.

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

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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