



**Animal &
Plant Health
Agency**

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

Our Ref: ATIC0994

23 December 2016

Dear [REDACTED]

PROVISION OF REQUESTED INFORMATION

Thank you for your clarified request for information about chicken flocks in the UK, which we received on 12 December 2016. Your request has been handled under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

The information you requested and our response is detailed below:

Broilers

- The number of registered premises in Great Britain with chickens bred for meat, which have at least 50 birds.

As of 15 December 2016 there are currently 1784 premises recorded which have 50 or more broilers.

- The number of chicken flocks in Great Britain bred for meat where there are at least 50 birds

APHA are unable to specify the number of flocks because we only record the number of birds on a premise. These 1784 premises all have at least 50 birds.

Layers

- The number of registered premises in Great Britain with chicken layers, which have at least 50 birds.

As of 15 December 2016 there are currently 5138 premises recorded which have 50 or more layers.

- The number of chicken layer flocks in Great Britain where there are at least 50 birds.

APHA are unable to specify the number of flocks because we only record the number of birds on a premise. These 5138 premises all have at least 50 birds.

Breeders

- The number of registered premises in Great Britain with any type of chicken breeder, which have at least 50 birds.

As of 15 December 2016 there are currently 1077 premises recorded which have 50 or more layers.

- The number of chicken breeder flocks in Great Britain where there are at least 50 birds.

APHA are unable to specify the number of flocks because we only record the number of birds on a premise. These 1077 premises all have at least 50 birds.

Notes on the information provided:

In March 2013, the Great Britain Poultry Register was de-commissioned with APHA's SAM database becoming the repository for the recording of poultry data. SAM is APHA's internal database that records owner and animal information. Premises are now registered via the Great Britain Poultry Register Helpline that is maintained by APHA's Specialist Service Centre (SSC) Cardiff who register, update and delete entries on the system. This information was taken from this system, and the responses given above are relied upon by how it was recorded. It is a snapshot in time, in this case data as of the 15 December 2016.

You must register poultry flocks of 50 or more birds that you own or are responsible for. They do not have to all be the same species. This applies even if a premise is only stocked for part of the year. If you have fewer than 50 birds you do not need to register. You are, however, encouraged to register voluntarily. In addition, APHA rely upon the poultry keepers to de-register.

Therefore due to the de-registration issue mentioned above, the information taken from the register may not reflect an accurate figure of premises.

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 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