

Animal and Plant Health Agency
Access to Information Team
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Our Ref: ATIC1214

{By Email}

20 December 2017

Dear

PROVISION OF REQUESTED INFORMATION

Thank you for your request for information about fur imports which we received on 4 December 2017. Your request has been handled under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

The information you requested and our response is detailed below:

"I would like to know the size (amount/number) of fur imports into the UK for the year 2016 and also fur that has been illegally (Furs of animals caught in leg-hold traps, furs of endangered animals) imported into the UK in 2016, (e.g. which may have been seized by import control)."

<u>Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) fur imports</u>

APHA can confirm that in 2016 there were no fur imports of CITES listed species into the United Kingdom (UK).

All historic CITES listed imports are publically available here: https://trade.cites.org/

Non-CITES listed fur imports

Treated fur

Following a search of our paper and electronic records, we have established that the information regarding treated fur is not held by APHA.

The importation of treated fur does not need to enter the UK through a Border Inspection Post or require a health certificate. Therefore APHA do not hold this information and cannot provide it for you.

Untreated fur

APHA have access to statistical data from the EU Commission's Trade Control and Expert System (TRACES) system, for commercial imports and exports.

TRACES shows there were no untreated fur imported into the UK in 2016.

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.

The information extracted from here is a true reflection of the information that we have access to.

Please also note that APHA have no powers of seizure of imports and would rely on the UK Border Force or the Local Authority to carry out these actions.

I have attached an annex giving contact details should you be unhappy with the service that 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

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