



Animal &
Plant Health
Agency

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[REDACTED]
{By Email}

Our Ref: ATIC1098

12 June 2017

Dear [REDACTED]

PROVISION OF REQUESTED INFORMATION

Thank you for your request for information about pet travel, which we received on 16 May 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 make the following FOI request to both DEFRA and APHA with regards to pet travel.

Q1 How many interventions (with regards to animals) have there been in the controlled area at Coquelles by DEFRA/APHA from:

- a) Start of December 2016 to start of May 2017
- b) Start of December 2015 to start of May 2016.
- c) Please provide a breakdown of the type of animal involved in each case.

Q2 How many patrols/surveillance visits have been carried out at Coquelles by DEFRA/APHA officers from (in regards to animals):

- a) Start of December 2016 to start of May 2017
- b) Start of December 2015 to start of May 2016

During the period to which these questions relate, APHA recorded the number of vehicles intercepted and animals quarantined by APHA staff. APHA staff respond to intelligence received about potential abuse of the Pet Travel Scheme, and quarantine animals found to be non-compliant when intercepted. Other non-compliant animals are not quarantined by APHA, but are quarantined by Trading Standards as part of their enforcement procedures.

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.

While APHA do record which approved PETS carrier/route the vehicle was travelling on, our records do not show where the vehicle was intercepted. For vehicles travelling by Eurotunnel, APHA cannot say whether the vehicle was intercepted at Coquelles or on arrival in the UK.

Vehicle interceptions for Eurotunnel

a) Start of December 2016 to start of May 2017

- Vehicles intercepted by APHA = 24

- Dogs quarantined by APHA = 70

a) Start of December 2015 to start of May 2016

- Vehicles intercepted by APHA = 37

- Dogs quarantined by APHA = 138

Vehicle interceptions for all routes/carriers into Dover

a) Start of December 2016 to start of May 2017

- Vehicles intercepted by APHA = 44

- Dogs quarantined by APHA = 107

a) Start of December 2015 to start of May 2016

- Vehicles intercepted by APHA = 38

- Dogs quarantined by APHA = 63

Q3 How many interventions (with regards to animals) have there been at Dover by DEFRA/APHA from:

a) Start of December 2016 – start of May 2017

b) Start of December 2015 – start of May 2016

c) Please provide a breakdown of the type of animal involved in each case

Q4 How many patrols/surveillance visits have been carried out at Dover by DEFRA/APHA officers from (in regards to animals):

- a) start of December 2016 – start of May 2017
- b) start of December 2015 – start of May 2016”

APHA record the number of days where surveillance visits were carried out, however this does not specify the number of staff involved or the number of hours of surveillance in any given period. Surveillance visits on Eurotunnel are carried out at Coquelles and Cheriton. Therefore we have provided the total number of days on which visits were carried out for this route and a breakdown of where the visit took place.

Number of days where surveillance visits were carried out on Eurotunnel:

- a) 1st December 2016 to 30th April 2017 = 32 (9 in Coquelles, 23 at Cheriton)
- b) 1st December 2015 to 30th April 2016 = 56 (20 in Coquelles, 36 at Cheriton)

Number of days where surveillance visits were carried out at Dover:

- a) 1st December 2016 to 30th April 2017 = 47
- b) 1st December 2015 to 30th April 2016 = 84

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