



Animal &
Plant Health
Agency

Animal and Plant Health Agency
Access to Information Team
Weybourne Building
Ground Floor
Woodham Lane
New Haw
Addlestone
Surrey
KT15 3NB

F 01932 357608

www.gov.uk/apha

[REDACTED]
{By Email}

Our Ref: ATIC1245

14 February 2018

Dear [REDACTED]

PROVISION OF REQUESTED INFORMATION

Thank you for your request for information about the Pet Travel Scheme which we received on 24 January 2018. Your request has been handled under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

The information you requested and our response is detailed below:

“You have in the past kindly provided me with the latest figures regarding the number of pet dogs and cats entering the UK under the Pet Travel Scheme since its introduction in February 2000 I would like to update my files and would appreciate the figures for the past two years of pets entering the UK under the scheme.

Do you, or are you able to, separate those pets entering from the EU and those pets entering from other approved countries?”

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 for Great Britain (GB) (England, Scotland and Wales).

Please find data below for dogs and cats imported to GB under the Pet Travel Scheme in the last two years.

	Cats	Dogs
2016	24145	275876
2017	26480	287016

The data regarding the Pet Travel Scheme is based on information provided by checkers employed by approved carriers of pet animals. There was an increase in movements between 2015 and 2016 which coincided with APHA piloting a parallel system in 2015 to establish the quality of the submitted data available from the Pets Database. This parallel system involved a new method of collecting data which is more accurate.

This parallel system more accurately records the number of pet animals entering the country but does not record the country in which the paperwork (passport or certificate) was issued or the country the animal travelled from. As such we cannot separate those pets entering from the EU and those pets entering from other approved countries.

The information that we have provided is a true reflection of the information that we have access to. We can't guarantee the accuracy of this data, as we can only rely on the information that has been provided by a third party (pet checkers).

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