



Animal &  
Plant Health  
Agency

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[REDACTED]  
{By Email}

Our Ref: ATIC1305

18 April 2018

Dear [REDACTED]

## PROVISION OF REQUESTED INFORMATION

Thank you for your request for information about the selection of Zoo Inspectors, which we received on **28 March 2018**. Your request has been handled under the [Freedom of Information Act 2000 \(FOIA\)](#).

'The information you requested and our response is detailed below:

I should like to request the following information regarding the recent selection of zoo inspectors by the Zoo and Licensing Officer of the Centre for International Trade - Bristol, Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA) between 1/9/2017 to 1/3/2018.

1. How many applications by veterinary surgeons were received by the panel?

[The panel received twenty three applications from veterinary surgeons.](#)

2. How many applications by non-veterinary surgeons were received by the panel?

[The panel received forty seven applications from non-veterinary surgeons.](#)

3. How many applicants were recommended to be zoo inspectors?

[Twenty applicants were recommended to be zoo inspectors](#)

4. How many veterinarians were recommended to be Zoo Inspectors?

[Twelve veterinarians were recommended to be Zoo Inspectors](#)

5. How many people comprise the Sift Panel who reviewed applications from October 2017 to March 2018?

[The Sift Panel comprised of five members.](#)

6. How many veterinary surgeons are members of the Sift Panel who reviewed applications from October 2017 to March 2018?

The Sift Panel included three veterinary surgeons.

7. Please can you provide copies of documentation and/or any criteria used by members of the Sift Panel to assist them in the selection of applicants to become zoo inspectors?

The document 'Final Criteria for inclusion on the Secretary of States list of zoo inspectors' is attached to this email marked Appendix 1.

Although the Sift Panel were looking for generalist inspectors, in addition they were also looking for Aquaria and Invertebrate specialists.

8. Please can you provide the names of the members of the Sift Panel who reviewed applications from October 2017 to March 2018?

The names of the Sift Panel members have been withheld under Section 40 of the FOIA. The details are below.

## **Section 40**

The information (names of Sift Panel members) has been withheld under section 40(2) read in conjunction with 40(3)(a)(i) (third party personal data) of the FOIA as the information constitutes personal data relating to a third party. Section 40(2) read in conjunction with 40(3)(a)(i) of the FOIA provides that personal data relating to third parties is exempt information if disclosure would breach the Data Protection Act 1998 (DPA).

APHA consider that disclosure of names is likely to breach the first data protection principle in Schedule 1 of the DPA, which relates to the fair and lawful processing of personal data, in two ways. First, disclosure would not constitute 'fair' processing of the personal data, second, disclosure would not satisfy any of the conditions for data processing set out in Schedule 2 to the DPA. Therefore, we have concluded that this information is exempt from disclosure under section 40(2) of the FOIA.

The use of section 40(2), read in conjunction with 40(3)(a)(i) is an absolute exemption in the FOIA. That means we do not have to conduct a Public Interest Test, and only have to consider whether release of the names of the Sift Panel members would amount to fair and lawful processing.

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](mailto: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](mailto: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