



Animal &
Plant Health
Agency

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

Our Ref: ATIC1349

27 June 2018

Dear [REDACTED]

PROVISION OF REQUESTED INFORMATION

Thank you for your request for information about UK stock density which we received on 30 May 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 hope you are having a good week. Do you (or do you know anyone who may) have a map and figures showing the stock density of:

- Total dairy in UK
- Total beef in UK
- Total sheep in UK

I have found various maps and figures (Total England (m), Total Scotland (m), Total Wales (m), Total UK) online but unfortunately they are out of date so I'm looking for updated versions. I'd really like a map!

Please find attached links to the latest maps/data we have available online but please be aware that each report has a thorough data quality statement outlining the caveats involved. It should also be noted that we are in the process of getting the latest updates of these approved for publication, so these will likely be online within a month showing data up to and including mid-2017.

The best information we have to date on Cattle and Sheep is publicly available on GOV.UK,

Please click here for cattle:

<http://apha.defra.gov.uk/documents/surveillance/diseases/iddg-pop-report-cattle1117.pdf>

Please click here for Sheep:

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.

<http://apha.defra.gov.uk/documents/surveillance/diseases/lddg-pop-report-sheep1117.pdf>

As advised in the note above, the figures that we do hold are still subject to review and sign off ahead of publication. Therefore the information that has been withheld under Section 22 of the FOIA, which relates to information intended for future publication.

The use of this exemption is subject to a Public Interest Test which is below.

Public Interest Test

APHA recognise that there is a public interest in our publication of stock densities, which is why these are published and available on GOV.UK.

However, we have concluded that the public interest in withholding the information sought outweighs the public interest in its disclosure. Releasing information now before it has been finalised would be misleading to the public and would contradict the principles behind Freedom of Information. It is in the public interest to wait until the information has been collected and fully assessed rather than to release this information prior to this.

Additionally publishing reports intended for subsequent review would prejudice this information being published at a later stage. Given the importance of publishing only appropriately reviewed reports, it is reasonable to expect that this information should be published in line with accepted practice rather than disclosed before official publication.

Information disclosed in response to this FOI request is releasable to the public. In keeping with the spirit and effect of the FOI 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

The information supplied to you is Crown copyright, unless otherwise stated, and is protected by the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988. You are free to use it for your own purposes, including for the purposes of news reporting. You can find details on the arrangements for re-using Crown copyright information at:

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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