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www.gov.uk/apha

Our Ref: ATIC1387



26 July 2018



PROVISION OF REQUESTED INFORMATION

Thank you for your request for information on pets entering/leaving the UK which we received on 06 July 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 saw in archives that you had statistical numbers for pets being brought to the UK from 2000-2009 and was curious if you had any more up to date information.

Would like numbers from probably around 2014-2017. Would it also be possible to see how many pets also left the UK?'

The number of pets entering GB under the Pet Travel Scheme are as follows:

| | Cats | Dogs | Ferrets |
|------|-------|--------|---------|
| 2014 | 15074 | 155444 | 69 |
| 2015 | 14496 | 164836 | 90 |
| 2016 | 24145 | 275876 | 129 |
| 2017 | 26480 | 287016 | 765 |

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.

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).

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.

APHA do not hold any data regarding the number of pets leaving GB under the Pet Travel Scheme as the country of destination is responsible for checking those at entry.

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

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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