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Our Ref: ATIC1418

{By Email}

30 Aug 2018

Dear

PROVISION OF REQUESTED INFORMATION

Thank you for your request for information on live animal exports which we received on 10 August 2018. Your request has been handled under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOI).

The information you requested and our response is detailed below:

'In the early hours of Thursday 9th August 2018, a convoy of transporters carrying live sheep left the port of Ramsgate.

I am requesting under F.O.I reports of the loading and the inspection at Ramsgate Port. I am also requesting copies of the contingency plans should animals be refused for further travel at the port of Ramsgate.

To reiterate I am requesting 3 reports under the Freedom of information Act.'

Council Regulation (EC) No 1/2005 on the protection of animals during transport Chapter III Article 11, 1(b) (iv) states that a duty of the Competent Authority when issuing long journey Transporter Authorisations is that there is "contingency plans in the event of emergencies". As the vehicles transporting the animals on the 9th August 2018 were non-GB, APHA do not hold the plans. A request for this information should be made to the competent authority who granted the long journey transporter authorisation.

Article 22 of the aforementioned Council Regulation (EC) No 1/2005 states "If any consignment of animals has to be detained during transport for more than two hours, the competent authority shall ensure that appropriate arrangements are made for the care of the animals, and, where necessary, their feeding, watering, unloading and accommodation."

As the Competent Authority, Defra holds a contract with a premises in the area that, in the eventuality that a delay occurs, the premises can be used in line with Article 22 for contingency purposes.

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.

Following a search of our paper and electronic records we have found the following reports on three transporters that travelled on the Thursday 09 August 2018 from Ramsgate Port. We have attached Appendices 1 to 6 which covers both the WIT 32 (Vehicle/Livestock Inspection report) and WIT 59 (Mid Journey Compliance Report) for each transport.

Information in the attached Appendices has been redacted under Section 40(2) of the Freedom of Information Act (2000).

Section 40

Some of the information contained within the requested documents has been withheld under section 40(2) of the FOIA as the information constitutes personal data relating to a third party. The FOIA provides that personal data relating to third parties is exempt information. The release of third party information, if disclosed, would also breach Article 5(f) of the General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) - principles relating to processing of personal data.

APHA consider that disclosure of this information is likely to breach section 40(2) of the FOIA and Article 5(f) of the GDPR, which relates to appropriate security of personal data, including protection against unauthorized or unlawful processing. Therefore, we have concluded that this information is withheld.

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