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www.gov.uk/apha

Our Ref: ATIC1960

{By Email}

28 January 2020

Dear

PROVISION OF REQUESTED INFORMATION

Thank you for your request for information on how many pet passports have been issued annually in the UK to pet owners which we received on 22 January 2020. Your request has been handled under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOI).

The information you requested and our response is detailed below:

"I'd like to request, if possible, related statistics on how many pet passports have been issued annually in the UK to pet owners in:

- 2015
- 2016
- 2017
- 2018
- 2019"

The Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA) do not issue pet passports to UK pet owners.

APHA only issue blank pet passports to approved official veterinarian (OV) practices in the United Kingdom who then issue these for cats, dogs and ferrets to move under the Pet Travel Scheme.

APHA do keep a record of the number of blank passports we provide shown in the table below. We do not record the number of pet passports issued by OV practices to individual animals.

APHA is an Executive Agency of the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs and also works on behalf of the Scottish Government, Welsh Government and Food Standards Agency to safeguard animal and plant health for the benefit of people, the environment and the economy.

Year	Total number of pet passports issued to OV practices
2015	119,704
2016	95,449
2017	91,661
2018	93,381
2019	73,760

The increased number of passports issued in 2015 reflects a revision to the document introduced in December 2014 through an EU Regulation covering pet movements.

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.

An Annex is attached 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.gov.uk

Annex

Copyright

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Complaints

If you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request, you may make a complaint or appeal against our decision under section 17(7) of the FOIA or under regulation 11 of the EIRs, as applicable, within 40 working days of the date of this letter. Please write to the Access to Information Manager at the address at the top of this letter or email <u>enquiries@apha.gov.uk</u> and the team will arrange for an internal review of your case.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, section 50 of the FOIA and regulation 18 of the EIRs gives you the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) for a decision. Please note that generally the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have first exhausted APHA's own complaints procedure. The ICO can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office Wycliffe House Water Lane Wilmslow Cheshire SK9 5AF