



Animal &
Plant Health
Agency

Animal and Plant Health Agency
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Our Ref: ATIC1961

[REDACTED]
{By Email}

13 February 2020

Dear [REDACTED]

PROVISION OF REQUESTED INFORMATION

Thank you for your request for information on gamebirds which we received on 29 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:

“we would like to have the Poultry Register data for each year individually from 2009 until 2019 that reports the numbers of each SPECIES of gamebird (categories = “pheasant”, “partridge”, “mallard”) whose ANIMAL PRODUCTION USEAGE CODE is “shooting” or “other”, separated by their LU PURPOSE (“Rearing for shooting”, “Breeding for shooting”, “Releasing for shooting”) . These data should be separated by geographical location at the finest possible scale, while retaining anonymity for individual registees. Ideally, data would be at a coordinated 10x10km UK grid square or a 4 digit postcode, but if you were able to provide it at a finer scale (e.g. 5x5km grid square), that would be greatly appreciated. This amalgamated data should also include the number of registees in that location.”

[Please refer to Appendix 1 for the figures you have requested. The information provided is current at the time of this response.](#)

[Each region row, shown on Appendix 1 does not represent an individual premise. The number of premises may be different to the number of birds because a premise can have several flocks.](#)

[The information provided is the average population of poultry passed to the Animal and Plant Health Agency \(APHA\) when a premise is initially registered. The ‘usual stock numbers’ are the number of birds provided by the poultry keeper upon registration.](#)

[The Poultry Register has not been in existence since 2014 when APHA was formed, and APHA do not publish reports. However historical reports from the former AHVLA are still](#)

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.

accessible and may provide some useful information that may be of help, they can be located from the link below:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/great-britain-poultry-register-statistics>

Further information on registering poultry can be found on GOV.UK.

Some of this information is being withheld under Section 40(2) of the Freedom of Information Act (2000).

Section 40

APHA can confirm the requested information is held, but maintains its decision to withhold it under section 40(2) as the information constitutes personal data relating to a third party.

Personal data relates to a living person and APHA consider the addresses would make individuals identifiable by being linked to them. We can confirm, in many of the post code regions we have provided to you, there are less than five premises. This makes identifying individuals more likely. 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 2018 (DPA).

APHA consider that disclosure of this information 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 of the FOIA.

We note from your email that you are carrying out this research on behalf of Natural England. You may wish to consider applying for a Data Sharing Agreement, which might allow APHA to release more detailed data for your review. APHA will consider Data Sharing Agreements for research purposes. Requests undergo a rigorous approval process, the purpose is considered and recipients are assessed as to who they are, and their organisation's compliance with Data Protection law. In addition, APHA expects to receive outputs to our benefit from the sharing so it is in our interest as well as the wider public. If you do wish to apply for a Data Sharing Agreement you should contact the Privacy Impact Assessment Team at privacy.impacts@apha.gov.uk

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

The information supplied to you continues to be protected by copyright. You are free to use it for your own purposes, including for private study and non-commercial research, and for any other purpose authorised by an exception in current copyright law. Documents (except photographs or logos) can also be used in the UK without requiring permission for the purposes of news reporting. Any other re-use, for example commercial publication, would require the permission of the copyright holder.

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Copyright in other documents may rest with a third party. For information about obtaining permission from a third party see the [Intellectual Property Office's website](#).

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 enquiries@apha.gov.uk 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