



Animal &
Plant Health
Agency

Animal and Plant Health Agency
Access to Information Team
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www.gov.uk/apha

Our Ref: ATIC2056

[REDACTED]
{By Email}

9 July 2020

Dear [REDACTED]

PROVISION OF REQUESTED INFORMATION

Thank you for your request for information regarding game bird imports which we received on 3 June 2020, and clarity on 16 June 2020. Your request has been handled under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOI).

The information you requested and our response is detailed below:

“Please can I put in an FOI request for game bird shipments into the UK from mainland Europe in September 2019? A digital copy is fine.”

And clarity:

“Please can I ask for the country and location of origin, the number of animals, the number of consignments, the breed of animals, the destination with as much information as you are able to provide, the date of delivery, the date of entry into the country, the location of entry and the shipping company (either DFDS or P&O).”

Please see information requested at Appendix 1. Some information contained within Appendix 1 has been withheld applying Section 40 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

TRACES (Trade Control and Expert System) is a European Commission system employed by EU member states to facilitate and record animal/animal product movements into and throughout the EU. This data was extracted from TRACES by searching for imports of pheasants and partridges. Information regarding date of entry into the country, the location of entry and the shipping company is not recorded on TRACES, and Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA) are therefore not able to provide information regarding this.

The information that APHA have provided is a true reflection of the information that we have access to. APHA can't guarantee the accuracy of this data, as we can only rely on the information that has been input into TRACES by a third party.

Section 40

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.

Information 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.

The location of origin and location of destination has been revealed at county level, and the postcode and address of premises has been withheld as it constitutes personal data. 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 release of the post code or further address details would make those individuals identifiable.

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.

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. During the current Coronavirus outbreak, our offices will be closed.

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

Coronavirus

However, following the changes to Government advice, from Tuesday 24 March 2020 the ICO offices will be closed. They will therefore not be able to collect correspondence sent via post. Where possible, they ask that you [contact them online](#) or call on 0303 123 1113