



Animal &
Plant Health
Agency

Animal and Plant Health Agency
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Our Ref: ATIC2265

[REDACTED]
{By Email}

23 December 2020

Dear [REDACTED]

PROVISION OF REQUESTED INFORMATION

Thank you for your request for information regarding game bird rearing site in Wales which we received on 9 December 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 am writing following a recent answer given by Minister Lesley Griffiths MS in response to a Senedd question about inspections of gamebird rearing sites in Wales.

(For reference, the question and answer have been included below)

Q. How many inspections of gamebird breeding and rearing sites have been undertaken by animal and plant health inspectors, or by local authority environmental health inspectors, in the last five years, to determine compliance with the requirements of the Code of Practice on the Welfare of Gamebirds and related duties?

A. The Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA) and relevant Local Authority are responsible for the delivery and enforcement of animal health and welfare provisions on behalf of the Welsh Government and hold that information.

Are you able to supply me with this information please, ideally the number and type of gamebird rearing site inspections carried out by APHA in Wales for the last 5 calendar years and the outcome of these i.e. any welfare concerns found or prosecutions made please?”

Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA) can confirm that seven visits to game bird establishments, in relation to animal welfare, have been conducted in Wales in the last five years. APHA, as national regulators, have a duty to investigate on-farm issues and if necessary report the findings to the Local Authority who, as the enforcement body, will then decide whether to take forward any criminal proceedings. Where issues are found, in relation to animal welfare, APHA will issue an advisory letter to address regulatory

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.

non-compliance. APHA are not aware of any prosecutions, taken in relation to animal welfare, against game bird establishments in the last five years; however Local Authorities will hold definitive records on their visits and any action taken.

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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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