



Animal &
Plant Health
Agency

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

Our Ref: ATIC2426

[REDACTED]
{By Email}

5 July 2021

Dear [REDACTED]

PROVISION OF REQUESTED INFORMATION

Thank you for your request for information about livestock numbers, which we received on 7 June 2021 . Your request has been handled under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) 2000.

The information you requested and our response is detailed below:

- “1. Please could you supply the current numbers of livestock farms and the current numbers of livestock held on each of these farms for the following species.
- a. Poultry Broilers.
 - b. Poultry Layers.
 - c. Pigs.
 - d. Sows.
 - e. Dairy Cattle.
 - f. Beef Cattle.
 - g. Sheep.”

The information you have requested can be found at Appendix 1.

As you are aware from your previous requests for the same information (ATIC2236) pigs are not separated by sows.

The information provided is the average population of livestock passed to the APHA when a premise is initially registered. The ‘usual stock numbers’ are the numbers of livestock provided by the keeper upon registration. As part of the registration process, APHA ask the farmer what their usual stock numbers are, and this is recorded on an APHA database. It is the responsibility of the owner/keeper to keep APHA informed of any number changes. APHA do change the numbers if informed of changes by visiting officers, other APHA offices or by checking the Cattle Tracing System (CTS).

Any blank entries for livestock numbers or those with 0 is because there was no stock to record at the time of registration and APHA have not been informed since of any changes by the owner/keeper.

Part of the information that you have requested has been exempted from release under Section 40 of the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) 2000.

Section 40

We confirm that APHA does hold the information that you have requested as detailed above, but we have decided that some of the information should be withheld under sections 40(2) and 40(3A) of the FOIA as the information constitutes personal data relating to persons other than you.

These sections exempt personal information from disclosure if that information relates to someone other than the applicant, and if disclosure of that information would breach any of the data protection principles in Article 5(1) of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR).

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. We consider that disclosure of this information is likely to breach the first data protection principle, which provides that personal data must be processed lawfully, fairly, and in a transparent manner. Disclosure would not constitute 'fair' processing of the personal data because, it would lead to the identification of 3rd parties.

For further information:

Livestock numbers can be found on GOV.UK

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistical-data-sets/structure-of-the-livestock-industry-in-england-at-december>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/structure-of-the-agricultural-industry#2021-publications>

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

If you need to contact the ICO during the Coronavirus pandemic, it's best to do so online. Please click [here](#) for contact details. You can also call them on 0303 123 1113.