



Our Ref: ATIC2434

[REDACTED]  
{By Email}

29 July 2021

Dear [REDACTED]

### PROVISION OF REQUESTED INFORMATION

Thank you for your request for information about live exports, which we received on 18 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:

“Under the terms of the FOI Act 2000, I wish to make the following request for information, regarding live farm animals exported from Great Britain (i.e. England, Wales and Scotland – **not** Northern Ireland) to continental Europe (or beyond), **for slaughter or fattening (not ‘breeding’)**, and any ‘long journeys’ over 8 hours requiring a ‘journey log’ to Ireland, for journeys undertaken in 2020.

In particular I would be most grateful if you could provide the following information:

1. How many a) cattle b) sheep c) pigs and d) other livestock animals have left the port of i) Dover ii) Ramsgate iii) Ipswich iv) Liverpool v) Cairnryan vi) any other port in Great Britain between 1<sup>st</sup> January and 31<sup>st</sup> December 2020 **for the purpose of slaughter or fattening** (*please specify purpose of export – slaughter or fattening*)

APHA do not record the number of animals but APHA can provide the number of **consignments** as follows:

- a) Cattle = 0
- b) Sheep = 173 (11 loads for slaughter, 162 for fattening)
- c) Pigs = 0
- d) Other livestock = 0
- e) Dover = 0
- f) Ramsgate = 78
- g) Ipswich = 0

- h) Liverpool = 0
- i) Cairnryan = 73
- j) Other port = 22 (Fishguard)

2. How many a) weaned b) unweaned I) cattle ii) sheep iii) pigs d) other livestock animals have been exported in each of the above shipments?

All 173 consignments of sheep were weaned animals.

3. In each of the above cases referred to in questions 1, what was the a) GB country of origin and b) country of destination?

- a) England = 70, Scotland = 77, Wales = 26
- b) Belgium = 11, Bulgaria = 4, France = 14, Hungary = 3, Netherlands = 46, Republic of Ireland = 95

4. How many (transporters) trucks were on each journey, which species of animal and how many animals?

This information is refused under Section 12(1) of the FOIA. Please see below for further explanation.

5. How many animals died in transit / before arrival at the final destination in each journey (and what the recorded reason for this death was)?

This information is refused under section 12(1) of the FOIA. Please see below for further explanation.

6. On what date did each of these crossings occur?

See the spreadsheet as Appendix 1 attached.

7. Any statutory notices that were issued during each of the journeys listed in response to questions 1.

Two

8. According to the journey plan / logs, what was the **a) estimated b) actual journey i) time ii) distance for each of the above journeys (including proposed lairage / rest stops during the journey/ journey cycle)**?

This information is refused under section 12(1) of the FOIA. Please see below for further explanation.

9. How many animals in each consignment were subsequently 're-exported' to i) a third country or ii) another European Union Member State at a date subsequent to the original export from Great Britain.

This information is not held by APHA.

## **Section 12(1) – Cost of Compliance**

APHA want to be as open as possible in answering requests for information. The FOIA itself also requires us to provide reasonable advice and assistance to those seeking to make such a request. APHA refer to your requests for information under questions 4, 5 and 8.

The information you are requesting is held on paper journey logs. When the journey logs are returned to APHA, limited information is extracted and put onto a database, making some limited information, from these logs retrievable. Also, one vehicle may have multiple logs if animals are picked up or dropped off at different points in the journey.

To be able to provide the data you are requesting would mean manually looking at every paper journey log extracting, and where needed, calculating data to then be transferred on to a readable format such as a spreadsheet, as provided to you in previous requests. The spreadsheet is not available or used by APHA as a record of information. Gathering the information together would therefore involve a significant cost and diversion of resources from the department's other work.

To further explain the resource involved, there are 173 journey logs involved with this request and the calculation is over 57 hours of manual processing, as detailed above.

Section 12(1) of the FOIA allows APHA to refuse a request for information if APHA estimate that the cost of complying with the request would exceed the appropriate limit, which currently stands at £600. On the basis of our estimates, APHA consider that the cost would exceed this limit and, as such, APHA are refusing your request.

Regarding your previous requests, ATIC1657 and ATIC2017, where some data has been provided, this has been completed from manual checking. Your requests differ in quantity so depending on the time involved depends on what APHA can release and what is exempted under section 12(1).

The last request provided, ATIC2017 far exceeded the time limit and retrospectively should have been exempted under section 12(1) of the FOIA. All enquires since, ATIC2393 and ATIC2414 have been refused under section 12 as they have been similar or larger requests of data.

However, if you were to make a new request for a narrower category of information, it may be that we could comply with that request within the appropriate limit, although we cannot guarantee that this will be the case.

The best way we can help you is to ask you to consider narrowing down your request to focus more clearly on the precise information you are seeking. You could, for example:

- if you specified a time period in your request, consider reducing it. For example, you have requested information from a specific year, would you be content with information from a shorter time period from within the specified year?
- consider narrowing down your request to focus more clearly on the precise information you are seeking. You could, for example, review the processes required by APHA to obtain the requested information detailed under section 12(1) – Cost of compliance and then taking this in to account, review the information you have requested.

Please note that if you modify your request, it will be registered as a new FOI request. The 20 working day deadline for providing a response would commence from the date that we receive the modified request.

### **Postal requests during the COVID-19 outbreak**

APHA are currently experiencing delays in replying to post that we have received. You should send queries to the relevant email address (details below) wherever possible. Please remember to include a return email address.

Yours sincerely

### **ACCESS TO INFORMATION TEAM**

Email: [enquiries@apha.gov.uk](mailto: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.

Most documents produced by APHA will be protected by Crown Copyright. Most Crown copyright information can be re-used under the [Open Government Licence](#). For information about the OGL and about re-using Crown Copyright information please see [The National Archives website](#).

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](mailto: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.