



Animal &
Plant Health
Agency

Animal and Plant Health Agency
Access to Information Team
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Our Ref: ATIC2437

[REDACTED]
{By Email}

19 July 2021

Dear [REDACTED]

PROVISION OF REQUESTED INFORMATION

Thank you for your request for information about poultry statistics, which we received on 24 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:

“Thank you for your response to my FOI request ATIC2419.

Having now reviewed the information, I realise that without a few more details, it is difficult to interpret some of the data accurately.

Therefore, I would like to request additional information to complement the information already provided. My request is in three parts:

1) Please could you tell me if poultry is ever removed from APHA’s SAM database, for example if farm is sold and livestock is no longer kept on the site. Would that change be reflected in the database? Or is the database a reflection of all poultry registrations, even if livestock is no longer kept at a registered site?”

This question is not for recorded information and has therefore been passed to the Customer Registration team to reply directly to you. The Customer Registration team have confirmed that they have answered this question.

“2) Please could you provide details of birds on APHA’s SAM database including the following data sets:

- Local Authority
- Created Date
- Species
- Animal Production Usage

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.

- Animal Purpose Code
 - Usual Stock Numbers
 - Business Activity (Farmer - Hobbist/Pet Owner - Poultry Company)
 - Name and address of site where poultry is kept
 - Husbandry System (Indoors only, floor - Indoors only, caged - Both Indoors and Outdoors - Outdoors only, penned paddock - Outdoors only, caged)
 - Farm Management System (Intensive - Extensive - Free Range - Organic)
- (Please note, I am not asking for personal details of registered keepers, just the site where livestock is held, in line with the information held on the Environment Agency's public register of 'Environmental Permitting Regulations - Installation'. This is important as some entries on the register do not include a 'Local Authority' entry)"

The data you requested can be found in Appendix 1. Names and addresses have been anonymised and replaced with Farm number 1, 2, 3 etc. as per Section 40 below. The 'usual stock numbers' are the number of animals provided by the owner/keeper to APHA upon registration. APHA does not store historical stock data therefore the usual stock numbers will only show what they are on the day the report was run. It is only compulsory to register flocks of poultry of over 50 birds with APHA. Owners/Keepers can voluntarily register flocks of less than 50 birds.

"3) Please could you explain and help me understand the reasons for individual registrations of livestock listed as '0' or a blank entry in 'Usual Stock Numbers' appearing on the register? Would they have originally been added to the database with '0' or a blank entry in the 'usual stock numbers' column or would those entries, for example, have been amended at a later date? If amended at a later date, is there a separate record of this and where?"

This question is not for recorded information and has therefore been passed to the Customer Registration team to reply directly to you. The Customer Registration team have confirmed that they have answered this question.

"Could you please include the data for all entries on the register from 1st January 2005 to the date of this request 2021."

APHA only holds data on records that were created from 2008.

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.

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.

Postal requests during the COVID-19 outbreak

We 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

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.