



Animal &
Plant Health
Agency

Animal and Plant Health Agency
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www.gov.uk/apha

Our Ref: ATIC2456

[REDACTED]
{By Email}

05 August 2021

Dear [REDACTED]

PROVISION OF REQUESTED INFORMATION

Thank you for your request for information about the number of dogs imported into the UK, which APHA received on 20 July 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 Freedom of Information Act I would like some data on dogs being brought into the U.K. as pets (not commercial imports)

The information I am requesting pertains to the following questions:

1) in 2019, how many dogs were imported into the U.K. (as pets, not commercial imports).”

Year	Dogs
2018	307357
2019	307263
2020	163562

“2) What breeds were they registered as?

3) Of those dogs, how many were suspected to be a banned breed?

4) Of those dogs, how many were confirmed banned breeds, and which breeds were they?

5) How many in point 3 required further assessment to establish whether they were “Pitbull types”

6) Of the Pitbull types, how many were then identified through the assessment process to be a Pitbull type.

7) Of the Identified Pitbull types, what was the outcomes of the attempt to import the dog (eg destroyed, sent to kennels awaiting court, etc)

Could I also have this same data for 2018, and if you have it, 2020.”

APHA do not hold the information to questions 2-7. APHA do not record the breed of dog upon entering Great Britain, unless a non-compliance is identified. All instances where suspicion of attempting to import a suspected banned breed, are referred to the Police under the Dangerous Dogs Act who then assess whether the dog is a banned breed or not.

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

APHA are currently experiencing delays in replying to post 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

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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

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.