



Animal &
Plant Health
Agency

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

Our Ref: ATIC2464

[REDACTED]
{By Email}

18 August 2021

Dear [REDACTED]

PROVISION OF REQUESTED INFORMATION

Thank you for your request for information about invasive alien species permits which APHA received on 02 August 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. "How many permits have been issued by the Animal and Plant Health Agency under section 35(1)(c) of the The Invasive Alien Species (Enforcement and Permitting) Order 2019?"

APHA have not issued any permits under section 35(1)(c) of the Invasive Alien Species Enforcement and Permitting Order.

2. "For all those species which were the subject of permits, how many different permits were issued for each species?"

Not applicable.

3. "Were any permits granted by APHA for the reason of compelling public interest?"

Not applicable.

4. "Please provide copies of all such permits issued since the 2019 Order came into force, redacted if required to conceal confidential personal data but showing in broad terms what the 'compelling public interest' was in each case (if applicable) and what prohibited action was authorised."

Not applicable.

5. "If the fourth request above cannot be met, then a list of the different 'reasons of compelling public interest' (if applicable) under which permits have been issued."

Not applicable.

6. "Copies of any departmental policies or other documents designed to guide decision-makers considering applications for permits under section 35(1)(c)."

There are no departmental policies or other documents designed to guide decision-makers considering applications for permits under section 35(1)(c) of the Invasive Alien Species Enforcement and Permitting Order. This concerns permits issued to authorise actions otherwise prohibited under the Order for reasons of compelling public interest. There have been no cases where this derogation has been required.

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.