



Animal &
Plant Health
Agency

Animal and Plant Health Agency
Access to Information Team
Woodham Lane
New Haw
Addlestone
Surrey
KT15 3NB

enquiries@apha.gov.uk

www.gov.uk/apha

Our Ref: ATIC2685

[REDACTED]
{By Email}

16 March 2022

Dear [REDACTED]

PROVISION OF REQUESTED INFORMATION

Thank you for your request for information about welfare statistics, which APHA received on 16 February 2022. Your request has been handled under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) 2000.

The information you requested and the response is detailed below:

“could you confirm whether animal welfare inspection reports of farms, abattoirs, pet breeding facilities, fish farms and laboratories are published for the general public to view?”

APHA can confirm that these reports are not published.

“If not can you confirm if a FOI request would enable me to view summarised data for all inspections and their conclusion, actions required. A sample size of approx five years for England or United Kingdom if not devolved, would be ideal.

I wish to establish

- number of inspections carried out per annum for each of the categories for last five years.
- of those inspections what percentage were as a result of a third party informant advising Defra of alleged animal welfare issues.
- number of places per category that had no issues, required intervention or were closed - or whatever grading system defra use.
- number of those businesses within those categories per annum to establish growing trend or declining trend in those types of business and to compare inspection numbers.
- List of top 100 businesses per category where Defra have serious concerns regarding animal welfare and have instructed the owners to improve.

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

Some of the information has been exempted from release citing Section 40 of the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) 2000.

Section 40

Some of the information (list of top 100 businesses) requested has been withheld under section 40(2), read in conjunction with 40(3A)(a), (third party personal data), of the FOIA as the information constitutes personal data relating to a third party. Section 40(2), read in conjunction with 40(3A)(a), of the FOIA provides that personal data relating to third parties is exempt information 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 consider that disclosure of this information is likely to breach the first data protection principle in Article 5(1)(a) repeated in 35(1) DPA, which provides that personal data must be processed lawfully, fairly, and in a transparent manner in two ways. First, disclosure would not constitute 'fair' processing of the personal data, second, disclosure of that information would not be 'lawful'.

APHA have concluded that this information is exempt from disclosure under section 40 of the FOIA.

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.

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.

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 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.