



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: ATIC2792

[REDACTED]
{By Email}

29 June 2022

Dear [REDACTED]

PROVISION OF REQUESTED INFORMATION

Thank you for your request for information about dog imports, which APHA received on 01 June 2022. Your request has been handled under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) 2000.

The information you requested and the response is detailed below:

I am writing to request information, under the FOI Act - from the APHA.

“The number of commercial dog imports into Great Britain from the EU and Third countries, over the past 10 years — up to the most recent data you have available— assuming the data is collated by financial year then from 2011-12 up to 2021-22.

If it's collected by calendar year, then please supply the data for 2011-2021.”

We do not have access to data prior to 2018 due to the APHA data retention policy. Data is collected in calendar years so have supplied 2020 and 2021.

Number of commercial dog imports into Great Britain from the EU and Third countries;

Year	Total
2020	66,952
2021	78,299

2020 data has been extracted from TRACES NT.

2021 data has been extracted from IPAFFS.

The information that we have provided is a true reflection of the information that we have access to. We can't guarantee the accuracy of this data, as we can only rely on the information that has been input into IPAFFS (*Import of products, animals, food and feed system*) and TRACES by a third party.

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.

“I am already working on the assumption that this is the data for the years 2018, 2019 and 2020—is correct as stated below – this was provided to me by the Defra press office. So I’m after the other missing years (2011- 17 and 2021).

2018	2019
41,313	44,563

This press release from August 2021 <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-powers-to-tackle-cruel-puppy-smuggling-move-step-closer> mentions 66,000 commercially imported into the UK in 2020.”

APHA can confirm the figures supplied by the press office are correct and are able to do this as they were supplied by APHA initially. Please be aware of the caveats to this information as detailed above.

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

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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

If you need to contact the ICO, it's best to do so online. Please click [here](#) for contact details. You can also call them on 0303 123 1113.