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www.gov.uk/apha

Our Ref: ATIC2800



11 July 2022

Dear

PROVISION OF REQUESTED INFORMATION

Thank you for your request for information about dog imports which APHA received on 14 June 2022. Your request has been handled under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) 2000.

The information you have requested and the response is detailed below:

"1. Please can you specify the total number of dogs commercially imported dogs from Romania to the UK in each year from 2000 to date".

Please see the table below. APHA can only provide Romania to GB imports.

The 2017 to 2020 data has been extracted from TRACES (Trade Control and Expert System). The earliest data available is from 2017. TRACES does not record the purpose of import as rehoming, so this will be unknown. This data is a true reflection of the information APHA has access to. APHA can not guarantee the accuracy of this data and can only rely on the information that has been input into the system by a third party.

The 2021 to 2022 data has been collated from PIMS (APHA's Post Import Management System).

a) Please can you specify how many of these dogs were imported with the purpose of rehoming in the UK as rescue dogs.

1/1/2017 to 1/6/2022	Number of dogs imported	For the purpose of rehoming
2017	15,532	Unknown
2018	17,165	Unknown
2019	19,478	Unknown
2020	32,502	Unknown
2021	38,080	37,268
2022	8,641	8,534

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.

"2. Please can you specify how many dogs in total have been seized at the border entering the UK from Romania with incorrect or forged health documentation in each year from 2000 to date."

APHA do not hold this information.

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.