



Our Ref: ATIC2805

[REDACTED]  
{By Email}

13 July 2022

Dear [REDACTED]

## PROVISION OF REQUESTED INFORMATION

Thank you for your request for information about dog imports, which APHA received on 16 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:

"In relation to the current ban on dogs coming into the UK from specified countries, please provide the following information.

1. How many dogs entered the UK from those countries in the last 5 years?

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Country Of Origin	Dogs	Dogs	Dogs	Dogs	Dogs
Poland	881	1160	3945	5593	1212
Romania	17189	19487	32525	38081	8624
Belarus	0	0	50	289	150
Ukraine	1	1	3	329	121

Pet dogs (non-commercial) travel on the pet travel scheme, The data regarding the Pet Travel Scheme covers pets entering Great Britain and is based on information provided by checkers employed by approved carriers of pet animals they do not record the country of origin .

2. Of this number, how many were found to have rabies, as a total number and a percentage of the total number?

Nil – for more information on rabies in the UK please see this link:

[Rabies: epidemiology, transmission and prevention - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/topics/rabies-prevention-treatment-and-control)

3. How many cases of attempts to import dogs on false documentation were recorded in each of the last 5 years?

APHA do not hold this information, it may be held by Border Force:

[Border Force - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/border-force)

4. For people coming to UK from Ukraine, how many were registered as bringing dogs/other pets with them? As a number, and as a percentage of those entering the UK.

APHA do not hold information on the number of people entering the UK from Ukraine. APHA can confirm we have received 2,144 applications for pets entering GB from Ukraine.

5. Details of those bodies involved in determining that a ban was necessary including details of any meetings, redacted as necessary, which do not fall within Section 35 of the FOI Act.”

UK Government Ministers made the decision to implement a temporary suspension on the importation of commercial dog movements from Ukraine, Belarus, Poland and Romania taking into account advice from Defra’s Animal Disease Policy Group (ADPG). The ADPG provides the UK wide policy forum where disease control policy, and sanitary and phytosanitary system (SPS) and strategic recommendations should be presented, reviewed, discussed, challenged and agreed. Collective views reached are put to respective sets of Ministers for agreement. ADPG also has an important role in making sure policies are, as far as possible, consistent across the 4 administrations. ADPG membership includes the 4 CVOs from across the UK and other representatives from the four administrations, and public health bodies who provide advice on zoonotic disease.

ADPG meetings at which the temporary suspension on the importation of commercial dog movements from Ukraine, Belarus, Poland and Romania was discussed took place on the following dates:

- 28 March 2022
- 7 April 2022
- 28 April 2022
- 12 May 2022
- 26 May 2022

For further information relating to the ADPG, please contact:

[informationrequests@defra.gov.uk](mailto:informationrequests@defra.gov.uk)

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](mailto:enquiries@apha.gov.uk)

## Annex

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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](mailto: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.