



Animal &
Plant Health
Agency

Animal and Plant Health Agency
Access to Information Team
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www.gov.uk/apha

Our Ref: ATIC3004

[REDACTED]
{By Email}

03 March 2023

Dear [REDACTED]

PROVISION OF REQUESTED INFORMATION

Thank you for your request for information about dog imports, which the Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA) received on 07 February 2023. Your request has been handled under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) 2000.

The information you requested and the response is detailed below:

This request is in reference to the import of cats and dogs into the UK.

“Is the register of dog and cat rescue charities available to the public?”

The current register for charities can be found here:

[Search the charity register - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](http://www.gov.uk)

“How do APHA control someone who is making repeat journeys with different dogs that in fact they don't own but are pretending they do own them and transporting them under pet legislation?”

APHA do not hold this information, however we believe that the Border Force agency may and they can be contacted here:

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

N.B. If you have concerns about a specific import please contact the local Trading Standards and/or Local Government who will be able to investigate.

“Under freedom of information please can you advise the number of dogs legitimately rescued into UK for the periods 2020 to date?”

Under freedom of information please can you advise the number of pet dogs brought into UK for the periods 2020 to date?"

Please find below data on dog imports in the period 2020-2022.

The first table shows the total number of pet dogs imported in 2020, 2021 and 2022.

The second table shows the total number of rescue dogs imported from the EU in 2021 and 2022.

Year	2020	2021	2022
Number of Pet Dogs	186,629	165,871	267,052

Year	2021	2022
Number of EU Rescue Dogs	57,411	28,576

The number of the rescue dogs from the Rest of the World (Row) and the number of rescue dogs from the EU in 2020 are unavailable as it is not recorded. The numbers of rescue dogs in 2021 and 2022 are based on the numbers provided by a third party, so we cannot guarantee their accuracy.

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.