



Our ref: FOI2023/08557
18 May 2023

Dear [REDACTED],

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION: Dog exports

Thank you for your request for information of 3rd May about Dog exports. APHA have handled your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

Your information request and our response are set out below.

“Under the Freedom of Information Act, I would like to request the following information:

* The total number of dogs exported from the UK to Vietnam between 1999 and 2023.”

There were 32 dogs exported to Vietnam between May 2020 and 2023. Data prior to this period is not held by APHA as our retention period for this type of information is 3 years

* “The names and microchip numbers (or other identifying information) and breed of each of the exported dogs.”

This information has been exempted from release citing section 40 of the FOIA, please see below.

* “The purpose of export (e.g. for use in racing or other sport; for use as companion animals).”

The commodity group for all of the exports is ‘Pets’. The data also includes which type of Export Health Certificate (EHC) was used for each export, all of the exports used 4086 EHC. To find out more about EHC’s please see link below:

[Get an export health certificate - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](http://www.gov.uk)

* “Were they exported by individuals or by companies?”

15 dogs were exported by individuals the remainder by companies.

* “If exported by companies, please provide details about these companies.”

This information has been exempted from release citing section 40 of the FOIA, please see below.

* “Whether the dogs were imported into the UK before being exported to Vietnam and if so, from which country or countries were they imported?”

APHA do not hold this information.

Unfortunately, some of the information you have requested has been exempted from release citing Section 40 for the FOIA.

Section 40

Some of the information 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’.

Any name, address, microchip number, exporter, trader, and certifier details are intended for APHA to use in the conduct of its core purposes. They are not intended for public dissemination.

As such customers would hold a reasonable expectation that their details are for APHA’s use only and not disclosed to third parties.

Under section 40 of the FOIA the term “personal data” means any information relating to an identified or identifiable living individual. “Identifiable living individual” means a living individual who can be identified, directly or indirectly.

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 FOIA and the government’s Transparency Agenda, this letter and the information disclosed to you may be placed on [GOV.UK](https://www.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

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.

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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 within 40 working days of the date of this letter. Please write to the Access to Information Team 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 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

Please click [here](#) for further contact details.