



Our ref: FOI2023/08652  
2 June 2023

Dear [REDACTED]

### **REQUEST FOR INFORMATION: Live animal exports**

Thank you for your request for information of 4th May about Live animal 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 terms of the FOI Act 2000, I wish to make the following request for information, regarding live farm animals exported

- i) from Great Britain (i.e. England, Wales and Scotland – not Northern Ireland) to continental Europe (or beyond), for slaughter or fattening (not ‘breeding’) in 2022, and
- ii) any ‘long journeys’ over 8 hours for slaughter or fattening (not ‘breeding’) requiring a ‘journey log’ to Ireland, for journeys undertaken in 2022.

In particular I would be most grateful if you could provide the following information:

1. How many live a) cattle b) sheep c) pigs and d) other livestock animals have left the port of i) Dover ii) Ramsgate iii) Ipswich iv) Liverpool v) Cairnryan vi) any other port in Great Britain between 1<sup>st</sup> January and 31<sup>st</sup> December 2022 for the purpose of slaughter or fattening (*please specify purpose of export – slaughter or fattening*).
2. How many a) weaned b) unweaned i) cattle ii) sheep iii) pigs d) other livestock animals have been exported in each of the above shipments?
3. In each of the above cases referred to in questions 1, what was the a) GB country of origin and b) country of destination?
4. How many (transporters) trucks were on each journey, which species of animal and how many animals?
5. How many animals died in transit / before arrival at the final destination in each journey (and what the recorded reason for this death was)?
6. On what date did each of these crossings occur?
7. Any statutory notices that were issued during each of the journeys listed in response to questions 1.

8. According to the journey plan / logs, what was the a) estimated b) actual journey i) time ii) distance for each of the above journeys (including proposed lairage / rest stops during the journey/ journey cycle)?
9. How many animals in each consignment were subsequently 're-exported' to i) a third country or ii) another European Union Member State at a date subsequent to the original export from Great Britain.

Animal Health has previously informed us of these journeys up to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2021. I am therefore now seeking information for more recent live farm animal exports *for slaughter and/or fattening*, from Great Britain, in the last calendar year (2022)

Regarding the issue on journey times (point 8). I understand that you do not collect the actual journey time data. However, I also understand that you do have the proposed ('estimated') journey time for each vehicle and the proposed number of lairage / rest stops as estimated by the driver/operator, via the journey log submitted to you. Indeed, you have provided this to us previously in another FOI response on the issue of live animal exports. I believe this would satisfy the outstanding data pertaining to point 8. Can I therefore request that all of that data is provided to us on this issue (i.e. proposed journey time and/or distance and the number of proposed rest stops)?

Regarding point 3. I don't believe there should be any restriction in providing this information (your previous responses said you don't have information on county of origin / destination, which seems odd). However, this has been amended to cover *country* of origin / destination. Hopefully that is acceptable."

APHA can confirm that in 2022 there were zero journey logs issued for exports with the declared purpose as slaughter/fattening.

When issuing journey logs the purpose of the journey is provided by the exporter and is recorded on the Export Health Certificate online database (EHCO). APHA will on occasion check directly with the exporter to confirm the purpose if it is a route which has limitations on certain types of livestock.

Currently there is no option on the journey log form to state the purpose of export (this template was set as part of the legislation).

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

## **Annex**

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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](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 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.