



Our ref: FOI2023/11067
30 June 2023

Dear [REDACTED]

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION: Animal seizures at the border

Thank you for your request for information of 6th June about Animal seizures at the border. APHA have handled your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

Your information request and our response are set out below.

“We would like to make a freedom of information request on the following items:-

We require the data from November 2022.

Number of animals seized at Coquelles and Dover due to Canvac R protocol non-compliance.

Number of animals seized without owners under the rabies order act 1974.

Number of animals re-exported under the rabies order act 1974.

Number of animals abandoned as a result of seizure.

Number of animals subsequently released having been wrongly seized.”

APHA wrote to you to seek clarity on your request and this was responded to as follows:

“We require the information starting from 1st November 2022 until 31st May 2023.

One other piece of data we would also require is:-

How many animals have been destroyed after seizure during that period?”

Q1 Number of animals seized at Coquelles and Dover due to Canvac R protocol non-compliance.

The UK Chief Veterinary Officer (CVO) and the Department for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) implemented new measures due to the vaccine’s protocol posing a risk to the biosecurity of GB.

Between 10/11/22 and 31/05/22 15 animals have been identified as non-compliant under the Rabies Order 1974 and placed in quarantine due to the improper use of Canvac R rabies vaccines.

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.

Q2 Number of animals seized without owners under the rabies order act 1974.

No animals have been seized without an owner. The person appearing to be in charge of the animal at the time of entry into GB are served a legal Notice under the Rabies Order 1974. This may be the owner or transporter, if the owner is not present. Name and address details for the owners are entered onto the Import of Products, Animals, Food and Feed System, (IPAFFS) by the Importer before departure into GB.

Q3 Number of animals re-exported under the rabies order act 1974.

1 animal has been rejected entry into GB by APHA under Notice of The Rabies Order, and returned to France.

Please note carriers may have rejected additional animal movements under their own company discretion but this information is not held by APHA.

Q4 Number of animals abandoned as a result of seizure.

112 animals detained by APHA during this period have been abandoned.

Q5 Number of animals subsequently released having been wrongly seized.

This information is not held by APHA.

An inspector may serve a notice to detain an animal on the person in charge of the animal if they have is reason to believe that the animal has been landed in Great Britain in contravention of the Rabies Order. All animals detained will be for this reason.

One other piece of data we would also require is:-

Q6 How many animals have been destroyed after seizure during that period?

1 animal was euthanised following veterinary advice, due to unnecessary suffering (welfare).

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

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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.