



Animal &
Plant Health
Agency

Animal and Plant Health Agency
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Our ref: EIR2023/11536
29 June 2023

Dear [REDACTED]

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION: Ivory Chess set exemptions granted

Thank you for your request for information of 8th June about Ivory Chess set exemptions granted. APHA have handled your request under the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 (EIRs).

The EIRs apply to requests for environmental information, which is a broad category of information defined in regulation 2 of the EIRs. Public authorities are required to handle requests for environmental information under the EIRs. They give similar access rights to the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

Your information request and our response are set out below.

“Under the Freedom of Information Act please advise the number of chess set exemptions made and granted since the beginning of the Act until May 2023 or the latest date available.

Background

At the March Defra internet meeting of the Ivory Users Group we were informed of the percentage of chess sets which had received or requested exemption from the Act under section 10.

However, in the recent June meeting we were simply informed that to date, 150 section 10 applications had been made under the Act with 112 exemptions granted.

Two rare and most important chess set collections have already been removed to mainland Europe and I wish to remind UK collectors that exemptions can be and have been granted for rare and most important items. In the meantime I am revising the guidance notes of overseas R & MI chess sets.”

APHA can confirm we have received 19 and granted 13 exemption applications for chess sets since the beginning of the Act to date.

Information disclosed in response to this EIR request is releasable to the public. In keeping with the spirit and effect of the EIR 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

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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 regulation 11 of the EIRs, as applicable, 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, 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

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