



Animal &  
Plant Health  
Agency

Animal and Plant Health Agency  
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[www.gov.uk/apha](http://www.gov.uk/apha)

Our ref: FOI2023/10050  
14 July 2023

Dear [REDACTED]

### **REQUEST FOR INFORMATION: Brucella Canis Information**

Thank you for your request for information of 22nd May about Brucella Canis Information. APHA have handled your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

Your information request and our response are set out below.

“Please provide a monthly breakdown (or quarterly, if monthly data is not available) of how many epidemiologically separate incidents of Brucella canis outbreaks there have been identified dating back to 2013.

Over the same timeframe please also provide the number of dogs tested, and how many were serologically positive.

Please provide a breakdown of how many of each month's cases were associated with importation.”

Prior to 2020 there have been three confirmed cases of Brucella canis in the UK. These were confirmed by culture of B. canis. Brucella canis was isolated from blood samples from dogs on two separate occasions in 2017. Both dogs had been imported. More information can be found here:

<https://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/ukgwa/20200805130205/https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/non-statutory-zoonoses-disease-surveillance-reports-2017>.

The dog in 2018 was also imported, more information can be found here:

[\[ARCHIVED CONTENT\] APHA animal disease surveillance reports - GOV.UK \(nationalarchives.gov.uk\)](#)

An annual breakdown of epidemiologically distinct cases since 2020 is provided at:

[Zoonoses and veterinary public health: disease surveillance reports - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

Prior to 2020 they can be found here:

[\[ARCHIVED CONTENT\] Non-statutory zoonoses: disease surveillance reports - GOV.UK \(nationalarchives.gov.uk\)](#)

As the information is reasonably accessible to you by other means, section 21 of the FOIA exempts APHA from providing a copy of the information with this response to your request. With respect to the number of dogs tested, APHA do not hold this information. Please see our Advice and Assistance below.

### **Section 16 – Advice and Assistance**

APHA can report on how many cases have been identified (or that were reported to us). These figures are cases, not dogs. A case is a specific epidemiologically distinct occurrence and may involve multiple dogs.

2019: 0

2020: 9

2021: 36

2022: 55

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**

### **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 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.