



Our ref: FOI2023/12877  
24 July 2023

Dear [REDACTED]

### **REQUEST FOR INFORMATION: Game bird statistics Scotland 2022**

Thank you for your request for information of 3rd July about Game bird statistics Scotland 2022. APHA have handled your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

Your information request and our response are set out below.

“I am looking to find out how many game birds (pheasant & partridge) are reared in each postcode across Scotland. Then secondly released into the wild.

Are you able to help my request?”

I would be looking for the information for the following dates;

1st January 2020 – 31st December 2020

1st January 2021 – 31st December 2021

1st January 2022 – 31st December 2022”

The information you have requested can be found at Appendix 1.

The information provided are the livestock numbers of pheasant & partridges provided by the keeper upon registration. As part of the registration process, APHA ask the keeper what their usual stock numbers are, and this is recorded in the APHA database. It is the responsibility of the owner/keeper to keep APHA informed of any number changes.

APHA do not hold historical information and any stock numbers only show what they are on the day the report was run.

It is only compulsory to register flocks of poultry of over 50 birds with APHA.

Owners/Keepers can voluntarily register flocks of less than 50 birds. To find out more about the registration of birds visit the GOV.Uk website for information here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/poultry-including-game-birds-registration-rules-and-forms>

Part of the information that you have requested has been exempted from release under Section 40 of the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) 2000.

### **Section 40**

The post code data has been supplied using the first letters/digits of the post code as the full post code in some instances would lead to the identification of premises. We confirm that APHA does hold the information that you have requested as detailed above, but we have decided that some of the information should be withheld under sections 40(2) and 40(3A) of the FOIA as the information constitutes personal data relating to persons other than you. These sections exempt personal information from disclosure if that information relates to someone other than the applicant, and 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 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 FoodStandards Agency to safeguard animal and plant health for the benefit of people, the environment and the economy. We consider that disclosure of this information is likely to breach the first data protection principle, which provides that personal data must be processed lawfully, fairly, and in a transparent manner. Disclosure would not constitute 'fair' processing of the personal data because, it would lead to the identification of 3rd parties.

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.