



Animal &  
Plant Health  
Agency

Animal and Plant Health Agency  
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Our ref: FOI2023/12915  
31 July 2023

Dear [REDACTED]

### **REQUEST FOR INFORMATION: Statistics on poultry populations**

Thank you for your request for information of 3rd July about Statistics on poultry populations. APHA have handled your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

Your information request and our response are set out below.

"In accordance with section 1 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and regulation 5 of the Environmental Information Regulations 2004, we request information in relation to poultry premises on and around European protected sites.

On this issue, we request provision of the following information at your earliest convenience:

- **How many, if any, poultry premises, registered on the poultry register, operate on Special Protection Areas (SPA) or within a 500m boundary around SPAs in England?**
- **How many, if any, of these premises are registered for chicken, gamebirds and duck and geese and how many of each species are kept in these premises?**
- **How many, if any, of these premises operate outdoor husbandry systems either alone or in combination with indoor units (data broken down by bird species)?**

Clarity was sought and responded to below:

"SPAs, Special Protection Areas under the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017, are a type of European protected sites.

To simplify the request. Could APHA please provide all registrations of premises on the current registration system and the poultry register, in case these terms are not being used interchangeably, for all European protected areas including the 500m buffer zone around these areas, as per DEFRA's gamebird map.

<https://defra.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=cf26ea0e851b49cf934ba97c1610fc39&extent=277608.5122%2C66375.1666%2C741342.9107%2C321734.1742%2C27700>

Could you please break down the data in relation to different bird species and indicate which of these premises operate outdoor systems either alone or combined with indoor premises.”

The information APHA hold is a current snapshot of the information passed to APHA at the point of registration, APHA do not hold historical statistical information. It is the responsibility of the livestock keeper to inform APHA of any changes.

Poultry species included are the ones defined by the Department for the Environment Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) being,

Chicken, Duck, Goose, Guinea Fowl, Ostrich, Partridge, Pheasant, Quail, Turkey and Rhea.

The available information you have requested can be found at Appendix 1. Any blank sections on the spreadsheet mean that the information is not held by APHA.

To find out more about the registration process you can access the link below:

[Poultry \(including game birds\): registration rules and forms - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

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](#), 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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### **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.