



[Redacted]

Our ref: FOI2023/16747
8 September 2023

Dear [Redacted]

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION: Dog imports

Thank you for your request for information of 30th August about Dog imports. APHA have handled your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

Your information request and our response are set out below.

“I recently came across some data online that had been requested about dog imports between 2016 and 2020

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1014403/ATIC2181.pdf

If possible I would like to request similar data, and pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act 2000 I would like to request to be informed about:

1. How many dogs were recorded as entering the UK under the PET scheme for pets travelling with their owners in years from 2012 - 2023
2. How many dogs entered the UK via commercial imports in years from 2012-2023”

The number of dogs imported to GB from 2018 to August 2023 are shown in Table 1. It is broken down by Pets to GB, Commercial Imports from the EU to GB and Commercial Imports from Third Countries to GB.

Table 1.

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023 (to August)
Pet Travel	312996	308404	186629	165871	282909	144884
Commercial EU to GB	37144	39566	60188	72766	37284	23245
Commercial Third Country to GB	4169	4997	6764	5533	3866	1796

“3. Which is the country of origin of most of the imported dogs?”

Table 2. shows the country of origin with the largest number of imports from 2018 to August 2023, broken down by Commercial Imports from the EU to GB and Commercial Imports from Third Countries to GB.

Table 2.

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023 (to August)
Commercial EU to GB	Romania	Romania	Romania	Romania	Romania	Romania
Commercial Third Country to GB	USA	USA	Bosnia Herzegovina	South Africa	South Africa	USA

The Pet Travel data is a summary of animals entering Great Britain under the Pet Travel Scheme via an approved route. It does not include pet animals that enter other parts of the UK (such as Northern Ireland or the Channel Islands) or pet animals that enter Great Britain from other parts of the UK. It does not include any animals that enter Great Britain under the Pet Travel Scheme from the Republic of Ireland (as these movements do not need to follow an approved route).

The data regarding the Pet Travel Scheme covers pets entering Great Britain and is based on information provided by checkers employed by approved carriers of pet animals. This data can be subject to change as often throughput data from carriers can be received late.

The information that we have provided is a true reflection of the information that we have access to. APHA do not have access to data prior to 2018. APHA cannot guarantee the accuracy of this data, as we can only rely on the information that has been input into external customer facing systems by third parties.

The EU data may include animals that have originated from a non-EU country but have travelled through an EU Border Control Post (BCP). The database records the EU BCP Country as the Country of Origin for these imports. The Rest of the World data will not include any animals that have arrived through an EU BCP.

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.