



[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Our ref: FOI2025/26866
19 December 2025

Dear [REDACTED]

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION: Request for Export Health Certificates | Animal Health Certificates

Thank you for your request for information of 12th December about Request for Export Health Certificates | Animal Health Certificates. APHA have handled your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

Your information request and our response are set out below.

“I would like to request the following information please if possible: How many Export Health Certificates and/or Animal Health Certificates did Official Vets complete in the last 12 months? Specifically for cats/dogs/ferrets.”

This link was sent to the requester:

“Thank you for your email. APHA can confirm that the data you have requested is published online. Please see the link below.

[Export Health Certificates \(Live Animals and Animal Product Origins\) Issued between Great Britain and European Union by APHA - data.gov.uk](#)”

However, the requester then clarified their request for the following information:

“Thank you team but this is to the EU specifically and EHCs which are no longer completed for pets. Do you have the data for AHCs to the EU and EHCs to the rest of the world?”

Please see the following table of Data with regards to your request.

Date Range	Number of EHCs Dis-patched	Number of UCNs issued	Number of UCNs Re-turned (batch of 50)
01/10/2024 - 30/11/2025	17,772 120,350	120,350	1772

The number of EHCs dispatched is 17,772 however we cannot guarantee that all of these certificates have been used and/or certificated as some may still be awaiting certification.

APHA Issue Unique Certificates numbers (UCNs) to Veterinary practices for entry on each AHC they Produce for Cats, dogs, & Ferrets to travel to the EU.

Each batch of unique Certificate numbers provided to Vet practices have a total of 50. The total number of UCNs dispatched is 120,350 divided by 50 which equals to 2407 batches (of 50) were dispatched and only 1772 have been returned, however we cannot guarantee that all 50 UC numbers have been allocated to an Animal Health Certificate.

APHA also do not always receive completed UCN forms back from OV's and often we will receive incomplete forms. This is because practices will return their previous UCN form when applying for a new batch of 50 UCNs.

The information provided is a true reflection of the information that APHA have access to. APHA cannot guarantee the accuracy of this data, as we can only rely on the information from documentation received.

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

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 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.