



Animal &
Plant Health
Agency

Animal and Plant Health Agency
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[REDACTED]
{By Email}

Our Ref: ATIC0859

19 May 2016

Dear [REDACTED]

PROVISION OF REQUESTED INFORMATION

Thank you for your request for information about the GB poultry register, which we received on 6 May 2016. Your request has been handled under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

The information you requested and our response is detailed below:

"I am doing some analysis on biosecurity and would like to obtain a list of all current postcodes from the GB Poultry register.

I only need postcodes and if possible number of birds registered. If bird numbers is considered commercially sensitive information, just the postcodes will be sufficient for my analysis."

Clarity was then asked, for which countries in Great Britain you wish the information for:

"England and Wales please."

In March 2013, the Great Britain Poultry Register was de-commissioned with APHA's SAM database becoming the repository for the recording of poultry data. SAM is APHA's internal database that records owner and animal information.

A list of all full postcodes of individual premises for England and Wales, from our SAM system is withheld under Sections 40(2).

Section 40(2) refers to other people's personal information. Section 40(2) of the FOIA provides that personal data relating to third parties is exempt information if disclosure would breach the Data Protection Act 1998 (DPA).

APHA consider that disclosure of this information is likely to breach the first data protection principle in Schedule 1 of the DPA, which relates to the fair and lawful processing of personal data, in two ways. First, disclosure would not constitute 'fair' processing of the personal data, second, disclosure would not satisfy any of the conditions for data processing set out in Schedule 2 to the DPA. Therefore, we have concluded that this information is exempt from disclosure under section 40(2) of the FOIA.

When applying this exemption reference was made to Tribunal decision EA/2007/0009, Roy Benford v the Information Commissioner and the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, and in particular paragraph 57 of that decision. Please see link to the decision here:

<http://www.informationtribunal.gov.uk/DBFiles/Decision/i60/BenfordDetermination.pdf>

However, in light of the decision above APHA can provide you with a list of recorded outgoing postcodes with the usual stock number of birds in each. Please see Appendix 1 attached for the information for England and Wales.

Where the usual stock number entry is blank, this means that this has not been entered onto the SAM system, therefore not recorded.

The information taken from the register is a snapshot in time, in this case data as of the 10 May 2016. It may not reflect an accurate population of birds in each postcode because APHA rely upon the poultry keeper to update their flock numbers.

Information disclosed in response to this EIR/FOI request is releasable to the public. In keeping with the spirit and effect of the EIR/FOIs 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.

I attach an Annex 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

Email: enquiries@apha.gsi.gov.uk

Annex

Copyright

The information supplied to you is Crown copyright, unless otherwise stated, and is protected by the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988. You are free to use it for your own purposes, and for the purposes of news reporting. You can find details on the arrangements for re-using Crown copyright information at:

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Complaints

If you are unhappy with the result of your request for information you may request an internal review within 40 working days of the date of this letter.

If you wish to request an internal review, please contact: The Access to Information Team at enquiries@apha.gsi.gov.uk or at the postal address at the top of this letter, who will arrange for an internal review of your case.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. Please note that generally the Information Commissioner cannot make a decision unless you have first exhausted APHA's own complaints procedure. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF