

16/02/2023

Dear

Information requested

Thank you for your request which was received on 24 January. You asked for the numbers of the following, going back 10 years:

- Equines in Wales and England
- Microchip/passport registrations of new equines
- Equines that entered the UK
- Equines that left the UK
- Returned microchip/passport numbers due to death of equine
- Licenced equine slaughtermen (knackermen) and abattoirs
- Equines slaughtered in abattoirs and killed by knackermen

Our response

Information relating to the number of live equines registered to owners registered as living in Wales; number of new equine microchips; number of new equine passport registrations; number of equines with returned microchip/passport numbers due to death; and number of equines slaughtered in the abattoirs and killed by knackermen is enclosed in the attached PDF document.

Please note, the data does not capture habitual location of equines rather the location of registered owners in Wales. The data in table one reflects the number of live equines currently registered to owners registered as living in Wales.

However, information relating to the number of equines in England, equines that entered the UK, equines that left the UK and number of licenced equine slaughtermen (knackermen) and abattoirs is not included as it is not held by the Welsh Government.

I believe that Food Standards Agency may be able to provide you with the information which you are seeking in relation to number of licenced equine slaughtermen (knackermen) and abattoirs. You can ask them for the information at information.governance@food.gov.uk or I can transfer your request to them. Please inform me in writing if you would like me to transfer your request.

Next steps

If you are dissatisfied with the Welsh Government's handling of your request, you can ask for an internal review within 40 working days of the date of this response. Requests for an internal review should be addressed to the Welsh Government's Freedom of Information Officer at:

Information Rights Unit,
Welsh Government,
Cathays Park,
Cardiff,
CF10 3NQ
or Email: Freedom.ofinformation@gov.wales

Please remember to quote the ATISN reference number above.

You also have the right to complain to the Information Commissioner. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

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

However, please note that the Commissioner will not normally investigate a complaint until it has been through our own internal review process.

Yours sincerely