

Annex A

Request

1. How many Equidae and solipeds were slaughtered for human consumption in the UK in:
 - a. 2018;
 - b. 2019;
 - c. 2020 to date?

2. How many Equidae and solipeds were slaughtered in the four English slaughterhouses for human consumption in:

- a. 2018;
- b. 2019;
- c. 2020 to date?

How many were slaughtered in the English slaughterhouses and deemed unfit for human consumption in the same years?

3. Of those slaughtered in English slaughterhouses, how many had the following passport issuers:

- a. Pet ID;
- b. Exmoor Pony Society;
- c. Dartmoor Pony Society;
- d. New Forest Pony Society;
- e. British Horse Society;
- f. Weatherbys?

4. Of those slaughtered in English abattoirs, how many were slaughtered under the rump sticker scheme and how many of these were deemed fit / unfit for human consumption?

5. How many Equidae and solipeds were slaughtered for human consumption in Northern Ireland slaughterhouse in:

- a. 2018?
- b. 2019?
- c. 2020 to date?

How many were slaughtered and deemed unfit for human consumption in the same years?

6. Of those slaughtered in Northern Ireland, how many had the following passport issuer:

- a. Pet ID;
 - b. Exmoor Pony Society;
 - c. Dartmoor Pony Society;
 - d. New Forest Pony Society;
 - e. British Horse Society,
 - f. Weatherbys?
7. Of those slaughtered in Northern Ireland, how many were slaughtered under the rump sticker scheme and how many of these were deemed fit/unfit for human consumption?
 8. How many of the Equidae and solipeds slaughtered in the UK were of non-UK origin and which countries did they come from?
 9. What products are produced from the Equidae and solipeds slaughtered (e.g meats/skins/any specified others) and which countries are the products exported to?
 10. Is there a facility for processing Equidae / soliped skins in the UK or are they sent abroad (and if so where do they go)?
 11. Are skins used for any purpose from Equidae or solipeds deemed not suitable for human consumption i.e. a product for export?
 12. Are skins used for any purpose from Equidae or solipeds suitable for human consumption i.e. a product for export?

Response

The data held for questions 1 to 4, has been withheld under section 43 of the Act. Further details about our use of this exemption has been provided in Annex B.

5. There are no approved slaughterhouses in Northern Ireland for the slaughter of Equidae and solipeds.
6. No data available.
7. No data available.
8. The number of horses slaughtered in the UK that were of non-UK origin and the passport issuing country are as follows:

Country of Passport issuer	Number of horses slaughtered for 2018	Number of horses slaughtered for 2019	Number of horses slaughtered for 2020 to date (03/12/2020)
Belgium	2	5	4
Austria	1		
France	23	23	13
Germany	3	7	5
Republic of Ireland	615	427	222
Netherlands	26	7	7

Sweden	1		
Canada	1		
Poland	1		1
Switzerland		1	1

Regarding questions 9, 10, 11 & 12, the FSA does not hold records of distribution of products. The role of the FSA is to verify that Food Business Operators traceability is in line with the current regulations.

The FSA does not hold records of exports. The FSA's role is to verify that checks and documentation are completed in line with the current regulations.

Requests for information regarding exports should be sent to the Animal and Plant Health Agency at enquiries@apha.gov.uk

You also requested contact details for European agencies who you could ask related questions. Our advice is to contact Department for Environmental, Food & Rural Affairs (DEFRA) through their helpline defra.helpline@defra.gov.uk

Annex B

Section 43 (commercial interest)

Some of the information that you have requested is being withheld from disclosure under section 43 of the Act. This is information which if disclosed would be likely to prejudice the commercial interests of FBOs caught within scope of this request.

As a qualified exemption this requires a public interest test to be carried out to consider whether the balance of public interest in disclosing the information outweighs that in not disclosing.

Whilst there is a general public interest in increasing transparency and openness, there is also a need to protect the legitimate commercial interests of FBO's.

If food producers believe that information about the day to day running of their plant, including throughput will be disclosed, they might be reluctant in future to co-operate and provide the FSA with all the information it requires to carry out its statutory functions.

This could be damaging to the FSA's objective of protecting public health in relation to food. In addition, it is not in the public interest to disclose information that would be likely to be used by competitors and weaken a company's position, in an already competitive market.

We believe, therefore, that the balance of the public interest favours withholding the information.