

Annex A

Request

- *The number of abattoirs / licensed slaughter houses are based in each of the following postcode areas: B, WV, DY, WR, WS, SY, TF, ST, CV, DE, NG, LE, LN, NN.*
- *The number of complaints received by the Food Standards Agency relating to abattoirs / licensed slaughter houses in each of the above postcode areas for each of the calendar years 2017, 2018 and 2019 (to date).
Please present these results separately, ie per calendar year for each postcode.
Eg: B: 2017 = 2 / 2018 = 1 etc*
- *The nature of the complaints received in the above.
Please present these results separately, ie per calendar year for each postcode.
Eg: B: 2017 = 2. 1 x animal welfare. 1 x cleanliness of slaughterhouse. 2018 - 1. 1 x hygiene practices. etc*
- *For each of the postcode areas listed above in the calendar years listed above, what enforcement action has been taken (written advice / hygiene improvement notice / remedial action notice / recommend for investigation)?*
- *Where the enforcement outcome was 'recommend for investigation', please provide the outcome of that investigation.*

Clarification:

- *By 'complaints' I mean what may be better termed as 'notifications of potential breaches' or 'concerns' - whether that be from third parties or from routine inspections / reviews etc.*

Response

Number of abattoirs / licensed slaughterhouses

Under section 21 of the Act, we are not required to provide information that is already reasonably accessible to you. Please see Annex B for further information regarding exemptions.

Part of the information you requested relating to the first point of your request can be reasonably accessed.

There are 56 approved slaughterhouses within the postcodes set out in your request, these are listed below. The full list of approved premises can be found on the internet at:

<https://data.food.gov.uk/catalog/datasets/1e61736a-2a1a-4c6a-b8b1-e45912ebc8e3>

List of approved slaughterhouses in postcode areas: B, WV, DY, WR, WS, SY, TF, ST, CV, DE, NG, LE, LN, NN

No	Trading Name	Town	Postal Code
4539	HASHAMS HALAL POULTRY	Birmingham	B10 9EJ
4199	Roopyal Laham Halaal Butchers	Birmingham	B11 4AA
4559	Taj & Co	Birmingham	B19 1DG
4392	Robert G Tuckey Ltd	Birmingham	B46 2LG
4702	CALDECOTT TURKEY FARMS LTD	Wythall	B47 6NG
4496	Birmingham Halal Abattoir Limited	Birmingham	B5 7EJ
4138	C E PARTRIDGE & SON LTD	Bromsgrove	B61 0BN
4771	Munir Bros Halal Poultry Ltd	Halesowen	B62 9LS
4637	Halal Poultry & Meat Products Ltd	Warley	B66 2NU
4770	Medina Pure Halal UK Ltd	Oldbury	B69 4EH
2690	Simpson & Sons	Redditch	B96 6HH
4015	Shafa Farm Limited	Hatton	CV35 7HZ
4236	Long Compton Abattoir Limited	Shipston-on-Stour	CV36 5JJ
4156	C H Rowley Limited	Coventry	CV7 8FU
4133	Farmers Fresh Limited	Kenilworth	CV8 1NN
4686	S Colliers Butchers Limited	Swadlincote	DE11 8JA
4242	PETER COATES (ALREWAS) LIMITED	Burton-on-Trent	DE13 7AE
4319	ROBIN MAYCOCK BUTCHERS	Matlock	DE4 5AT
3005	MOY PARK (ASHBOURNE)	Ashbourne	DE6 1HA
4406	AJ WILD	Sudbury	DE6 5HZ
4026	Avara Foods	Scropton	DE65 5PS
4649	M. Najib & Sons Limited	Foston	DE65 5PW
4182	Janan Meat Limited	Kingswinford	DY6 7JS
4333	UNIVERSITY OF NOTTINGHAM	Loughborough	LE12 5RD
2248	Melton Meat Limited	Melton Mowbray	LE14 2QN
2077	FOYLE MELTON MOWBRAY	Melton Mowbray	LE14 3PR

4327	JOSEPH MORRIS BUTCHERS LTD	Lutterworth	LE17 6EG
4557	LEICESTERSHIRE FARM FRESH TURKEYS	Leicester	LE7 9DA
5204	L BROWN & SON (WHOLESALE BUTCHERS) LIMITED	Lincoln	LN3 4NL
5116	DOVECOTE PARK (SKELLINGTHORPE)	Lincoln	LN6 5TX
3003	Avara Foods	Market Rasen	LN7 6SH
4225	C BRUMPTON BUTCHERS LTD	Nottingham	NG12 3HT
4380	A E TAYLOR & SON	Nottingham	NG13 0BX
5177	LINCOLNSHIRE MEAT COMPANY LTD	Grantham	NG31 7DA
3011	MOY PARK	Sleaford	NG34 9SL
3007	Avara Foods	Brackley	NN13 7EX
4286	LAWN FARM MEATS	Cheadle	ST10 2NJ
4707	Wootton Organic Wholesale Ltd.	Oakamoor	ST10 3BZ
2501	A. J. Leese Turkeys Ltd	Stoke-on-Trent	ST10 4HY
2670	Manifold Valley Meats	Leek	ST13 7TT
2368	J S Quality Meats Limited	Uttoxeter	ST14 5AA
4367	T G SARGEANT AND SONS	Uttoxeter	ST14 5BG
4295	W JAMES	Stoke on Trent	ST2 7HL
4373	STAFFORDSHIRE MEAT PACKERS LTD	Stoke-on-Trent	ST2 9DL
4349	PERRYS OF ECCLESHALL LIMITED	Eccleshall	ST21 6BL
4197	N TM AND EM BASKEYFIELD	Newcastle-under-lyme	ST5 7AJ
4276	A J GREEN & SONS	Stoke-on-Trent	ST6 4QH
4109	ABP Shrewsbury	Shrewsbury	SY1 4AH
4073	ABP ELLESMERE	Ellesmere	SY12 9BL
4017	HIGHBURY POULTRY FARM PRODUCE LIMITED	Whitchurch	SY13 2HJ
4102	A H GRIFFITHS	Craven Arms	SY7 0LB
4451	EURO QUALITY LAMBS LIMITED	Craven Arms	SY7 9PA
2536	Pickstock Telford Limited	Telford	TF1 7FA
4562	AHMED JEEWA & SONS	Walsall	WS1 4JJ
2569	Severn Valley Lamb	Great Wyrley	WS6 6AY
4256	H.P. Westwood Limited	Burntwood	WS7 1JL

Complaints received by postcode, by type and by year

Due to the small number of premises in each postcode location, it would be possible to identify where complaints related to an individual business were the data to be provided broken down by postcode. Some of this information is therefore being withheld under Section 43 (Commercial Interests). We have provided the total number of complaints / recorded non-compliances for the premises falling into the full catchment area of your request, by year. This information can be found at Annex C. Please note that a single instance of non-compliance can be recorded in multiple categories. For example, an instance of unhygienic equipment could result in a non-compliance related to good hygiene practices. Additionally, the same instance could also be recorded as a non-compliance related to the Food Safety Systems intended to prevent equipment becoming unhygienic. Therefore, the single non-compliance would be recorded in these multiple categories. Please see Annex B for further information regarding exemptions.

Animal welfare non-compliances are categorised using 2, 3 and 4. A full definition of these scores is included in the [Manual for Official Controls](#), chapter 2.3, section 3.4.3. But in summary they are defined as:

Score	Descriptor	Definition
2	Minor non-compliance - No immediate risk to welfare	Low risk of compromising animal welfare or an isolated low risk situation that poses no immediate risk to the welfare of animals.
3	Major non-compliance - Potential risk to welfare	Potential to risk of significantly compromising animal welfare but where there is no immediate risk to animals. This may lead to a situation that poses a risk to animals, causing pain, distress or suffering.
4	Critical non-compliance - Welfare critical	Poses a serious and imminent risk to animal welfare or one where avoidable pain, distress or suffering has been caused.

Enforcement action for those postcodes –

The hierarchy of enforcement action taken by the FSA is detailed at:

https://www.food.gov.uk/sites/default/files/media/document/chapter-7-enforcement_4.pdf

The actions taken range from informal advice stages, to formal cautions or referral for investigation. Note that a single non-compliance may trigger a number or series of enforcement actions and therefore, the number of non-compliances recorded by FSA systems and the number of enforcement actions will necessarily differ.

Please see Annex D for a summary of the enforcement actions taken. Due to the small number of premises in each postcode location, it would be possible to identify where enforcement action related to an individual business were the data to be provided broken down by postcode. Some of the data (plant number, name and address) is therefore being withheld under Section 43 (Commercial Interests) and Section 30 (Investigations and Proceedings). Please see Annex B for further information regarding exemptions.

Recommended for investigation – what was the outcome

The data you have requested is summarised at Annex D. Some of the data (plant number, name and address) is being withheld under Section 30 (Investigations and Proceedings). Please see Annex B for more information regarding exemptions.

ANNEX B

Section 21 (Information reasonably accessible to the applicant by other means)

Under section 21 of the Act, we are not required to provide information that is already reasonably accessible to you. Some of the information in scope relating to the first part of your request contains information that is readily accessible.

Section 21 is an absolute exemption which means there is no requirement to carry out a public interest test.

Section 43 (commercial interests)

We have withheld information you have requested that may identify individual establishments under section 43(2) of the Act, which states that:

information is exempt information if its disclosure under this Act would, or would be likely to, prejudice the commercial interests of any person.

Were this information to be disclosed this would be likely to cause reputational damage to the companies concerned, and a loss of confidence from their customers. If this were to occur this would potentially lead to a loss of business. It could also be misunderstood or misrepresented, especially by the competitors of the named companies, and would be likely to be used by them to gain a commercial advantage.

As section 43 is also a qualified exemption, we have undertaken a public interest test to decide whether, on balance, the public interest lies in disclosing or withholding this information. In favour of disclosure is the public interest in openness and transparency particularly with regard to the provision of safe meat. As above, we also recognise that disclosure of information about a food business's compliance with food regulations can serve the public interest by helping to drive up levels of compliance. However, there is also a need to protect the legitimate commercial interests of food producers. It is not in the public interest to disclose information that would be likely to be used by competitors and weaken a producer's position, in an already competitive market. Also, this information was provided to and collected by the FSA in the context of the Agency carrying out its regulatory functions. If food producers believe that information collected in this context will be disclosed, this may create a barrier to the future completion of a full and effective audit process, which the FSA requires to carry out its statutory functions. This could be damaging to the FSA's objective of protecting public health in relation to food. We believe, therefore, that the balance of the public interest favours withholding the information on this occasion.

Section 30 (investigations and proceedings)

The plant numbers, names and addresses have been withheld under section 30(1)(b) of the Act, as releasing this information would allow identification of individual establishments. The non-compliance information is held for the purpose of investigations in accordance with the provisions of that subsection.

As section 30 is subject to a public interest test, we have undertaken a public interest test to determine whether the balance of public interest favours disclosing or withholding the information.

We recognise that there is a public interest in accountable, open and transparent decision-making, and the public interest in the production of safe meat and animal welfare. We also recognise that disclosure of information about a food business's compliance with food regulations can serve the public interest by helping to drive up levels of compliance. However, we consider that there is a stronger public interest in non-disclosure to preserve the integrity and effectiveness of the investigations and proceedings that the Agency carries out as part of its statutory law enforcement obligations. Additionally, disclosure could fetter the Agency's ability to operate the full range of enforcement action available to ensure premises act within the law. In addition, in the public interest, information about a food business's levels of compliance with hygiene and animal welfare standards (the audit scores) is proactively published by the FSA. Therefore, I have determined that the balance of the public interest favours non-disclosure.

Complaints regarding slaughterhouses received from external sources:

Nature of Complaint	2017	2018	2019
Complaint about OV	0	1	0
Missing ear tags	0	2	0
Animal By-Products/Odour related	24	6	0

Non compliances category recorded				
Type	2017	2018	2019	Grand Total
Animal Health and Identification (Slaughterhouse / Game Handling Establishments)	60	53	78	191
Animal Welfare (Slaughterhouse only)	578	543	411	1532
Environmental Hygiene / Good Hygiene Practices	1619	1302	1617	4538
Food Safety Systems Based on HACCP Principles	218	177	191	586
Handling of Animal By-Products / waste to protect human and animal health	401	347	289	1037
TSE / SRM Controls	40	48	26	114
Slaughterhouse / Game Handling Establishment Hygiene	981	1012	723	2716
Cutting Plant / Minced Meat / Meat Preparations / Meat Products Hygiene/ MSM / Cold Stores	181	173	132	486
Fish and Fisheries Products	0	0	0	0
Ready To Eat Products	0	0	0	0
Other	0	8	76	84
Totals	4078	3663	3543	11284

Please note that a single instance of non-compliance can be recorded in multiple categories. The data includes non-compliance scores of minor through to critical.

Enforcement Actions				
Enforcement Stage	2017	2018	2019	Grand Total
Welfare Verbal	503	445	316	1264
Welfare Written	22	70	63	155
Welfare Referred	36	11	15	62
Welfare Welfare Enforcement Notice	14	4	10	28
Welfare WEL11-35 Completion Notice	3	1	4	8
Welfare Seizure And Detention Receipt	0	0	0	0
Welfare CCTV Enforcement Notice	0	5	0	5
Welfare Reminder	0	7	2	9
Hygiene Verbal	3134	2831	2723	8688
Hygiene Written	254	211	246	711
Hygiene Referred	4	5	4	13
Hygiene Hygiene Improvement Notice	24	9	12	45
Hygiene Remedial Action Notice	8	17	11	36
Hygiene Certification Meat Failing To Comply With The Hygiene Regulations	0	0	0	0
Hygiene Notice For Disposal Animal By Products	1	1	2	4
Hygiene Detention Of Food Notice Food Safety Act	0	0	1	1
Hygiene Detention Notice Food Hygiene Regulations	2	2	3	7
Hygiene Food Condemnation Warning Notice	0	0	0	0
Hygiene Reminder	66	32	45	143
Hygiene Animal By-Product Regulations Notice	0	0	0	0
Hygiene Agreement To Destroy Meat	0	2	2	4

Note that a single non-compliance may trigger a number or series of enforcement actions

Annex D

Referred for investigation		Year			Grand Total
Category	Investigation Outcome	2017	2018	2019	
FSH(E)	No Further Action	7	1	1	9
FSH(E)	Ongoing Prosecution		1		1
FSH(E)	Under Investigation			2	2
FSH(E)	Warning Letter	3			3
TSE	No Further Action		1		1
TSE	Under Investigation			1	1
WATOK	1 Conviction 1 Warning	1			1
WATOK	No Further Action	1	4		5
WATOK	Ongoing prosecution	2			2
WATOK	Under Investigation			3	3
WATOK	Warning Letter	6	1		7
Grand Total		20	8	7	35

Key

WATOK

Welfare of Animals at Time Of Killing Regulations 2015

FSH(E)

Food Safety and Hygiene (England) Regulations 2013

TSE

The Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathies (England) Regulations 2018