

Veterinary Service Animal Health Group
Information Communications Branch



Department of
**Agriculture, Environment
and Rural Affairs**

An Roinn

**Talmhaíochta, Comhshaoil
agus Gnóthaí Tuaithe**

Department o'

**Fairmin, Environment
an' Kintra Matthers**

www.daera-ni.gov.uk

Our reference: **DAERA/26-143**

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Email: vsinfocommsbranch@daera-ni.gov.uk

30 March 2026

Dear ██████████

Freedom of Information Act 2000

Thank you for your request for information received by the Department on 27 February 2026 which you sought the information in bold below. I can advise that the Department has completed its search and confirms it holds the information you requested.

1- For the year 2025, the number of individual exports of poultry manure/litter and pig manure from Northern Ireland (NI).

For the year 2025, the number of individual exports of poultry manure/litter and pig manure from Northern Ireland (NI), there were 587 exports of poultry manure/litter and one export of pig manure during this period

2 - For the year 2025, the estimated annual volume of poultry manure/litter and pig manure exports from NI

For the year 2025, the estimated annual volume of poultry manure/litter and pig manure exports from NI, there was approximately 39,012 tonnes of poultry manure/litter and 3,752.10 tonnes of pig manure exported during this period.,

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3 - A breakdown of the destination countries - with amounts (if info held) of manure/litter exported - e.g. Republic of Ireland or EU member states.

All exports of poultry manure/litter and pig manure were destined to the Republic of Ireland.

4 - Copies of any health certificates or other similar documentation relating to these consignments held by DAERA NI*

*** Please reduce timescale (for example covering a smaller period such as July - December 2025), in the event this aspect of the request exceeds permitted time allowance**

As explained in the information sheet enclosed with my acknowledgement letter, under certain conditions, the Department has the right to refuse to respond to a request for information. In this instance, under Section 12(1) of the FOI Act the Department is not obliged to comply with your request for information as the estimated cost of compliance exceeds the appropriate limit of £600.

The Department has identified that there are approximately 1071 records that may fall within the scope of Question 4 of your request, however as stated in your request if this is the case we can reduce the timescale and the Department will be able to provide 630 redacted documents in response to Question 4 within the cost thresholds.

The Department has decided not to disclose some of the information as it is being withheld under the following exemption of the Freedom of Information Act: Section 40(2) – Third party personal data of which you are not the data subject.

In these instances, the Department is required to consider if disclosure would breach the first Data Protection Principle, which states that processing must be lawful, fair and transparent.

The Department has considered this element within the test attached at **Annex A** and has determined that no lawful basis for disclosure under FOI exists. Please bear in mind that any disclosure must be considered in terms of disclosure to the “world at large” and not just to you, the requester. Consequently, third party personal data falling within the scope of this request has been withheld.

In addition, the Export Health certificates also contain information that the Department has decided not to disclose as it considered to be of commercial interest and will be redacted under Freedom of Information Act 2000 / Section 43 – Commercial Interest to be engaged. In these instances, the Department is legislatively required to consider the public interest in disclosure. An associated Public Interest Test has been conducted and is attached for your information at **Annex B**.

Once redactions as above are actioned on the Export Health Certificates, information remaining is already covered within questions 1-3 above. We have attached 10 Export Certificates to demonstrate

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this. These are attached as **Annex C – L**. However, if you require the remaining 620, we can redact and issue to you. I would be grateful if you could advise if you require these.

If you require any clarification, believe that any part of your request has been overlooked, misunderstood or misinterpreted, please contact me in the first instance to see if it is a matter that can be resolved.

If you are unhappy with the way your request for information has been handled or the decision to release/withhold information, you have the right to request a formal review by the Department. If you wish to do so, please contact The Review Section either by e-mailing daera.informationmanager@daera-ni.gov.uk or by post at The Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs, Data Protection & Information Management Branch, Floor 2, Jubilee House, 111 Ballykelly Road, Ballykelly, Limavady BT49 9HP, within two months from the date of this letter.

If after such an internal review you are still unhappy with the response, you have the right to appeal to the Information Commissioner at Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, CHESHIRE, SK9 5AF, who will undertake an independent review of the Department's decision.

Yours sincerely,



Veterinary Service Animal Health Group

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