

Reference Number : DAERA/26-742



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](http://www.daera-ni.gov.uk)

**Veterinary Service Animal Health Group**  
Information Communication Branch

Via Email:

VSAHG Information Communications Branch  
1<sup>st</sup> Floor  
Jubilee House  
111 Ballykelly Road  
Limavady  
BT49 9HP

Email: [vsinfocommsbranch@daera-ni.gov.uk](mailto:vsinfocommsbranch@daera-ni.gov.uk)

20 October 2026

Dear [REDACTED]

### **Freedom of Information Act 2000**

Thank you for your email received by the Department on 23 September 2026 which you sought the information in bold below.

- **How many dog transporters were refused travel out of, or entry through, the Port of Belfast due to: Incorrect, incomplete, or non-compliant Journey Logs / Travel Logs?**
- **The provision of false or fraudulent addresses?**
- **Please provide these figures broken down separately for each category and by the calendar years 2021, 2022, and 2023. If your database records these issues under a broader category (such as "documentation non-compliance" or "invalid paperwork"),**
- **please provide the closest matching data available within the cost limit rather than issuing a flat refusal**

I can advise that the Department has completed its search and can confirm the information is held.

If you are deaf or have a hearing difficulty you can contact the Department via the Next Generation Text Relay Service by dialling 18001 + telephone number.

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| Reason for refusal                         | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 |
|--------------------------------------------|------|------|------|
| Non-compliant Animal Transport Certificate | 1    | 5    | 4    |
| False or fraudulent address                | 0    | 1    | 2    |

In relation to the figures provided above, please note the following:

- As requested, the results relate to commercial dog transporters only, namely transporters authorised by DAERA or another competent authority.
- The figures provided for transport documentation relate to Animal Transport Certificates, as Journey Logs, referred to in the request, are not required for the transport of dogs.
- The figures relating to false or fraudulent addresses are based on cases where a DAERA representative considered an address provided to be false at the time of inspection at Belfast Port.
- The figures may relate to the same incident. For example, a consignment presented at Belfast Port may have been accompanied by a non-compliant Animal Transport Certificate which was believed to contain details of a false address. In such cases, the incident may be included within both categories.

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](mailto: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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