

**Question for written answer E-000873/2017  
to the Commission**  
Rule 130  
**Charles Tannock (ECR)**

Subject: Follow-up to Written Question E-011841/2015

In its response to Written Question E-011841/2015, the Commission stated that: 'smuggling and illegal intra-union movements of pets often escape the controls by the veterinary services, as by their nature, those activities are often difficult to detect by official controls. However, the awareness of the official services is an essential contributor in detecting those movements. [...] The FVO proposes to discuss the point of illegal non-commercial movements of pets in the next meeting of the national contact points for animal welfare during transport which is to take place 1-3 December 2015. This discussion should allow the identification of best practices in tackling such illegal trade and will be followed up firstly by sharing these practices and intelligence with the authorities involved in the different Member States. Then the Commission, together with the Member States, can review in 2016 whether such controls have been successfully improved and decide on further steps in this area.'

Can the Commission outline what best practices it has identified in tackling the illegal trade in pets in the EU and what further steps it plans to take in this regard?

Does the Commission's Health and Food Audits and Analysis Directorate plan to audit compliance with Regulation (EU) No 576/2013 and Directive 92/65/EEC, and can it outline a timeframe for this?