



My Ref: FOI4793
Enquiries to: Information Requests
E-Mail: informationrequests@barnsley.gov.uk

Dear Requester,

Re: Request for Information – Freedom of Information Act 2000

I wish to confirm that the council has completed its search for the information which you requested.

The information requested and our findings are as follows: -

I am writing to you under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 to request the following information, please:

1. How many dog breeders are currently licensed by your council?

This information is available on our website at the following link:

<https://www.barnsley.gov.uk/media/zaqjozhy/animal-health-licences-foia.pdf>

2. How do you assess compliance with the dog breeding licence condition set out in sch 6, para 6(5) of the Animal Welfare (Licensing of Activities Involving Animals) (England) Regulations 2018 (“LAIAR”), which states, “No dog may be kept for breeding if it can reasonably be expected, on the basis of its genotype, phenotype or state of health that breeding from it could have a detrimental effect on its health or welfare or the health or welfare of its offspring”?

Evidence of health checks including coefficient of inbreeding, examination by vet at initial inspection, breeders are also encouraged through conversation to demonstrate knowledge of the breed, any common health problems and how to identify them.

3. Please advise:

a. How many instances of non-compliance with sch 6, para 6(5) of LAIAR has your council recorded since October 2018?

b. How many dog breeding licences have been i. refused, ii. varied, iii. suspended, or iv. revoked by your council due to non-compliance with sch 6, para 6(5) of LAIAR since October 2018?

c. How many operators have been i. prosecuted for and ii. convicted of an offence contrary to reg 20(1)(a) LAIAR by your council for breaching the dog breeding licence condition contained in sch 6, para 6(5) LAIAR?

d. If applicable, what penalties were imposed on any convicted operators referred to in your response to 3(c)?

(Please provide a breakdown for the above information by year using the example table below.)

In relation to the first column 3A, we do not record statistics on specific paragraphs to indicate compliance or non compliance. To assess this would require detailed assessment of each lengthy inspection report to find the record, make the assessment of whether this was an indication of a breach or a discussion, review and record the data on approximately 87 records, each taking between 30 minutes and an hour. As such the

council applies Section 12(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 as compliance would exceed the appropriate limit of £450, equivalent to 18 hours of staff time. To complete the work for all the years identified would take a minimum estimate of 43 hours.

- 4. With reference to your answer to question 3(a) above, if any instances of non-compliance were recorded, please indicate the grounds upon which the operator was found to be in breach of sch 6, para 6(5) LAIAR?**

Please see answer to 3A above.

- 5. Please provide copies of any internal policies relating to the enforcement and implementation of the Animal Welfare (Licensing of Activities Involving Animals) (England) Regulations 2018.**

Please find attached Enforcement Process document.

- 6. For all dog breeding licences issued or refused in the past three years, please provide copies of inspection forms held. I understand that any personal information will need to be redacted. If inspection reports are not held (e.g because inspections are carried out by another local authority or regulatory service on your council's behalf) please provide the name of the authority / service provider that holds this information.**

As Q3

If this request exceeds cost of compliance limits, please prioritise questions 3, 4 and 6 and advise via email how I may refine the remainder of my request to ensure it fits within the scope of the Act.

If you have any queries about this letter, please contact Information Requests Via email.

Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

If you are unhappy with the way the Directorate has handled your request, you may ask for an internal review. Please clearly mark your correspondence 'Complaint' and address it to:

Barnsley MBC
Information Requests Team
PO Box 634
Barnsley
S70 9GG
email: informationrequests@barnsley.gov.uk

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PO Box 634, Barnsley, South Yorkshire S70 9GG

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: -

Customer Services Team
Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF

Email: <http://www.ico.org.uk/foicomplaints>

Kind regards,

Information Requests Team, Barnsley MBC

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