



My Ref: FOI 6238
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 request all records you hold relating to the known injury or death of animals that are not rats or mice that have occurred or are suspected to have occurred as a result of rodent control operations. This means operations that were commissioned, administered, or delivered by the council, whether through in-house pest control staff or by external contractors engaged by the council.

My request includes casualties resulting from any lethal or live-capture rodent control method where non-target mortality occurred, including but not limited to:

- Anticoagulant or acute rodenticide use (such as suspected secondary poisoning of raptors, hedgehogs, mustelids, or other wildlife)
- Spring or kill traps (Fenn traps, tunnel traps, or similar)
- Glue boards or adhesive traps
- Any other method

I am requesting all records held, as far back as they are available in a readily accessible format. If full compliance would exceed the cost limit, please prioritise the most recent records available and advise me of the earliest year that falls within the limit. This request covers both confirmed casualties and cases where a causal link to rodent control was suspected but not formally established, for example where an animal was found dead in or near bait stations, traps or treatment areas.

For the avoidance of doubt, the council is requested to consider whether any relevant information is held by contractors or agents on its behalf and is therefore subject to disclosure under Regulation 3(2) of the EIR.

For each recorded incident or casualty, can you provide where held:

1. Species, or best identification available (e.g. "unidentified raptor") 2. Number of animals affected 3. Outcome (killed/injured/released alive) 4. Date or approximate date 5. Control method responsible 6. General location or site type (e.g. housing estate, council depot, public park) 7. Whether the operation was in-house or contracted out, and if the latter, the contractor's name

I also request where available:

- Any summary or aggregate reports relating to non-target casualties in the council's rodent control programme
- Any contractual provisions, standing instructions, or service specifications requiring pest control contractors to report non-target casualties to the council

The Council's pest control work to CRRU (Campaign for Responsible Rodenticide Use). Using the hierarchy Prevention, Hygiene and Habitat Management, Monitoring, Non-Toxic Control Measures, Use of Rodenticides.

We do not have any reports of any incidents of casualties resulting from any lethal or live-capture rodent control method where rats and mice were reported.

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

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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