



## FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



**Request Number:** F-2018-01794

**Keyword:** Organisational Information/Governance

**Subject:** Dangerous Dog Act

### Request and Answer:

Under the Freedom of Information Act Blue Cross wishes to ask the following questions relating to the Dangerous Dogs Act.

#### Request 1

In the last five years how many dogs have been seized by your force under Section 1 of the Dangerous Dogs Act?

#### Request 2

How many of these dogs have been subsequently put onto the Index of Exempted Dogs?

#### Request 3

In the last five years how many dogs have been seized by your force under Section 3 of the Dangerous Dogs Act?

#### Request 4

Provide a list of all breeds seized under Section 3 of the Dangerous Dogs Act from the last five years?

#### Request 5

How many dogs have been destroyed under Section 1 of the Dangerous Dogs Act within the area your force covers over the last five years?

#### Request 6

How many dogs have been destroyed under Section 3 of the Dangerous Dogs Act within the area your force covers over the last five years?

#### Request 7

Does your police force have a policy on the use of the Interim Exemption Scheme for dogs seized under Section 1 of the Dangerous Dogs Act?

#### Request 8

How many dogs were exempted on an interim basis as part of this exemption scheme in 2017 under your forces jurisdiction?

## **Request 9**

Provide a list of dogs seized under Section 1 of the Dangerous Dogs Act and the length of time they spent in police kennels prior to the completion of their court case?

### **Answers**

Searches were conducted however these searches failed to locate any records or documents relevant to your request based on the information you have provided. Accordingly, I have determined that the Police Service of Northern Ireland does not hold the information to which you seek access.

The council dog warden is legislatively responsible for the seizure of dangerous dogs as per the Dogs Order as amended within Northern Ireland. PSNI would not tend to seize dangerous dogs for this reason and therefore it appears the PSNI have not seized any dangerous dogs as classified in the dogs order. The dog warden in the local council may be able to assist you further.

If you have any queries regarding your request or the decision please do not hesitate to contact me on 028 9070 0164. When contacting the Freedom of Information Team, please quote the reference number listed at the beginning of this letter.

If you are dissatisfied in any way with the handling of your request, you have the right to request a review. You should do this as soon as possible or in any case within two months of the date of issue of this letter. In the event that you require a review to be undertaken, you can do so by writing to the Head of Freedom of Information, PSNI Headquarters, 65 Knock Road, Belfast, BT5 6LE or by emailing [foi@psni.pnn.police.uk](mailto:foi@psni.pnn.police.uk).

If following an internal review, carried out by an independent decision maker, you were to remain dissatisfied in any way with the handling of the request you may make a complaint, under Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act, to the Information Commissioner's Office and ask that they investigate whether the PSNI has complied with the terms of the Freedom of Information Act. You can write to the Information Commissioner at Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF. In most circumstances the Information Commissioner will not investigate a complaint unless an internal review procedure has been carried out, however the Commissioner has the option to investigate the matter at his discretion.

Please be advised that PSNI replies under Freedom of Information may be released into the public domain via our website @ [www.psni.police.uk](http://www.psni.police.uk)

Personal details in respect of your request have, where applicable, been removed to protect confidentiality.