

**From:** Freedom of Information Requests

**Sent:** 27 August 2025 09:20

**To:**

**Subject:** FOI Response

Dear Sir/Madam,

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request dated 7 August 2025 for information about dog breeding licensing. Please find below City of Doncaster Council's responses to the questions you have raised.

### **Request**

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

### **Response**

After carefully considering your request for information the Council has decided that to respond to your request would exceed the appropriate limit as defined in the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

### **Basis for decision:**

Section 12(1) of the Freedom of Information Act allows for a request for information to be refused where the cost of supplying this information exceeds the appropriate limit. After carefully considering your request for information the Council has decided that to respond to your request would exceed the appropriate limit as defined in the [Freedom of Information \(Appropriate Limit and Fees\) Regulations 2004](#). The regulations allow a request for information

to be refused where the cost of supplying this information exceeds £450 (or 18 hours of officer time).

**Why does the exemption apply in this case?**

The cost limit applies in this case because the City of Doncaster Council does not hold a central record of instances of non-compliance with sch 6 para 6(5), therefore in order to determine this information approximately 320 cases will need to be reviewed. It is estimated that each case will require a 15 minute investigation which would result in a total time of approximately 80 hours which would exceed the time limit.

In order for us to reconsider your request we ask that you make your request more specific by narrowing down the scope of your request. For example, requesting this information over a shorter timeframe, or removing this question.

**Reviewing any decisions made:**

If you are not happy with this reply you can ask us to review our response. To do this write to us within 40 working days of receiving your response at the address below or email [FOIAppeals@doncaster.gov.uk](mailto:FOIAppeals@doncaster.gov.uk)

If you do not agree with the review decision you can apply to the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) for a decision about our compliance or otherwise with the Freedom of Information legislation. Contact details for the ICO are: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF. [www.ico.org.uk](http://www.ico.org.uk) Telephone 0303 123 1113.

**Yours faithfully,  
Ellen Dook**

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