



Further to your information request FOI/EIR 25/26-089, please find your question and our response below.

Request:

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

- 1) How many investigations into illegal dog breeding has your council been involved in during the financial year 1st April 2024 to 31st March 2025?
- 2) How many prosecutions related to illegal dog breeding were carried out by your council in the same period?
- 3) If available, please also provide the same figures for each individual financial year from 2018–19 to 2023–24.

Response:

1. Zero
2. Zero
3. We actively pursue illegal breeders and pet shops using online sources, but do not hold the number of approaches over the period requested where a licence was subsequently obtained. I can advise that the Council has prosecuted one prolific breeder for s13, s9 and s4 offences (2022) and is currently investigating a further illegal breeder (April 2025) having obtained a warrant to search their premises. This could be disposed of by way of prosecution or via the new animal welfare FPNs we can issue.

This concludes your request FOI/EIR 25/26-089.

If information has been refused, please treat this as a Refusal Notice for the purposes of the Act.

If you disagree with our decision or are otherwise unhappy with how we have dealt with your request in the first instance you may approach foi@eastcambs.gov.uk and request a review. A request for review must be made in no more than 40 working days from the date of this email.

Should you remain dissatisfied with the outcome you have a right under s50 of the Freedom of Information Act to appeal against the decision by contacting the Information Commissioner, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow SK9 5AF.