



FOI REF:	15821
RESPONSE SENT:	15/07/2025

Request

Dear Winchester City Council,

FOUR PAWS UK wish to submit a Freedom of Information request in respect of dog-breeding licences and enforcement in your authority.

This is part of an ongoing piece of research looking at gathering evidence for LAIA reform, which we have written to you about previously, the results of which can be found in our recently published report - [Puppy Breeding and Licensing: a postcode lottery of enforcement](#).

We recognise that these requests take time and effort from you in terms of compiling responses and so wanted to thank you in advance for this. Please send the response to UKCampaigns@four-paws.org.uk

1 Number of Licensed Dog Breeders at 31/03/25

The total number of licensed breeders within your authority area on 31/03/25 (to include all dog breeding licence holders irrespective of duration.) The numbers of breeders on 31/03/2025 holding 1, 2 and 3 year licences.

2 Applications for dog breeding licences received (between 01/04/24 and 31/03/25)

(A) The number of new licence applications received The number of new licences granted Number of new licence applications refused and reasons for refusal.

(B) The number of licence renewal applications received The number of licence renewals granted Number of renewal licence applications refused and reasons for refusal.

3 Inspections undertaken in relation to holders of dog breeding licences between 01/04/24 and 31/03/25

The total number of initial (for grant or refusal) compliance inspections undertaken on application (both (a) new and (b) renewal). Number of interim compliance inspections undertaken

4 Complaints received about dog breeding between 01/04/24 and 31/03/25

The number of allegations and/or complaints received about unlicensed breeders The number of allegations and/or complaints received about licensed breeders Number of follow-up inspections and/or visits carried out due to those allegations/complaints (for both (a) licensed and (b) unlicensed breeders). Number of breeders whose licence was revoked/suspended as a result of complaints/allegations. Number of subsequent investigations undertaken by

means of visits to the breeder Number of subsequent investigations undertaken by other means. Number not investigated.

5 Enforcement actions in relation to dog breeding licence holders between 01/04/24 and 31/03/25

- Number of licences revoked and reasons for revocation Number of licences suspended and reasons for suspension Number of prosecutions in relation to licence holders, including reasons for prosecution and outcomes Number of Fixed Penalty Notices (FPN) served per premises and reasons for FPN's. Number of Improvement Notices served per premises.

Response

1. There are 11 licensed breeders at 31/03/25, 3 one year licences, 2 two year licences, 6 three year licences.
2. Applications for dog breeding licences received (between 01/04/24 and 31/03/25);
(A) 3 were new applications, all were granted.
(B) 8 were renewals, all were granted.
3. Inspections undertaken in relation to holders of dog breeding licences between 01/04/24 and 31/03/25
(a) Initial inspections for new = 3, interim compliance inspections = 0
(b) Initial inspections for renewal = 2, interim compliance inspections = 2
4. Complaints received about dog breeding between 01/04/24 and 31/03/25
(a) 1 complaint against licensed breeder, resulted in 1 follow-up inspection, 1 licence was suspended and 1 subsequent visit. No licences revoked.
(b) 5 complaints about unlicensed breeders, 4 visits made.
5. Enforcement actions in relation to dog breeding licence holders between 01/04/24 and 31/03/25. 1 suspension of licence for breach of licensing conditions. No revocations, no prosecutions, no FPNs, no improvement notices.